In 1992, I was asked, by film director David Fincher, if I wanted to meet with producer Ed Pressman, to talk about developing the comic *Judge Dredd, 2000AD* into a screenplay. I was a huge fan of Dredd and immediately accepted to take a meeting. David advised me to play my cards close to my vest. Yet in my enthusiasm in preparation to met Mr. Pressman I outlined the entire screenplay as I saw the movie and readied my pitch. I drove up to Beverly Hills to his office and took my seat in the waiting room. I could not believe it but there was a good friend and colleague of mine, from film school, Michael Miner who had not only written RoboCop but worked with me in writing my first writers guild screenplay for the Marvel comic, *Iron Man*. I had met with Stan Lee through my manager and he knowing I knew Michael pitched us to Stan. I was paid guild minimum and Miner over a $100,000. But of course he had a great success on his hands. This will come into play in a moment. As I saw Michael and his RoboCop writing partner, exit Ed's office, my heart raced, thinking wow this is going to be fun, I have to do my very best.

When Michael walked out, I was happy to see him and said hello, and sat back down. When at last I was asked to meet Ed, there across from me was a very soft-spoken man, in his forties, very bald, in the old fashion way, without a shaved head, perhaps in his middle forties. He explained that he and another producer had acquired the property and he was interested in David to direct and that David has spoken well

of me, and the work we had done together in music videos, me writing for David. Soon enough I was asked to pitch my take on the story. I jumped out of my chair and point by point told Ed the amazing story of Judge and Sludge. He hired me right then and there. It was only weeks later that the offer of Guild minimum something like 28K was the offer. I did not like this. I had been without earnings for some time and wanted some real money. That was the offer. I did not say anything for several weeks and in the 5 - 7 days time wrote the script. Several months later I let my agent, Marty Shapiro, know that the script was ready while at the same time letting him know how displeased I was about the deal he had made. He may have said something about getting in the door, and its Ed, and I could sense Marty was more interested in making Ed happy then me. A few months long done, I got a call from Pressman's office to deliver the script. I asked them if they could pick it up as I was shooting something in Pasadena. Later that day, a Friday, the script was picked up and I expected within the next month I would hear back. I didn't really think about, but I did think I had something good.

The following morning, Saturday, it was 11am and the phone rang. It was Ed. 'Marc, you did it, I have been on this for 3 years, it's great. I am going to get this to Robert Zemeckis. It is going to be fantastic.' I don't know why he mentioned Zemeckis instead of Fincher but maybe it was *Forest Gump* or *Back to the Future* that had just come out. Anyway it sounded awesome to me. At least I was going to get something made, and when you have a script of yours made in Hollywood, then you really get paid. Weeks later the meeting was set and I was ready to get some more praise and rock n roll. There

were just some notes to review. As I sat there Ed was more quiet then normal, which is practically mute and while the other producer, I have forgotten his name, oh, Charlie Lippincott, (I had no idea he was the genius marketer of Star Wars) but now his tone and notes began to give me a sense that more action, more violence was needed and that they were talking to Stallone to play Dredd. I thought it was John Cleese or Bill Murry or a young Peter Sellers who should be Dredd and that this was more a Terry Gilliam film, an Alex Cox film, something like *Brazil* or *12 Monkeys* or even *Repo Man* more than a Verhoeven film. After all, hadn't he read the comic, which was so over the top, drool and hilarious and very British. He had read the comic and in fact was the person who brought it to Ed. Yes but wasn't Mega City post Blade Runner, postmodern and excessive, a technopolis more like Rome than Detroit. And couldn’t black humor better critique and ribald authoritarianism and the excessive rule of law.

Judge Dredd was made with Stallone and was a colossal miss at making a great populace film. Ed Pressman sent on to me a draft of *The Island of Dr. Moreau* to revise but it was too far gone. I did option and do a draft of the Rudy Rucker novel, *Software*, a truly great book that Ed optioned and went through a lot of different writers to develop but when *I Robot* failed that was that.

A few years later I left Hollywood for Silicon Valley. I had learned unless you are extraordinarily strong, film is a producers, not a directors medium. One thing I liked about this project, this writing, it was unlike the films, I would many years later in New York. This film, this film script was imagined with the idea of an unlimited budget. With that sense

of imaginative freedom and the great world created by the originators, John Wagner and Carlos Ezquerra and all the *Judge Dredd* and other comics that I collected and simply loved during that late 80's period of a great comic book revival, I enjoyed this world and writing it as film immensely.

marc lafia

2012

SLOW FADE UP UNDER CRAWL: a statue of a JUDGE dwarfs the Lincoln memorial.

CRAWL: In the future the eastern seaboard cities from Washington DC to Bostom became so dense they formed one interconnected sprawl known as Mega City1. With the density and the unemployment came more and more crime. New crimes to the environment and information networks joined the old familiar ones. To stop the crime and the escalation of its cost a new system of justice was put in place. The Judge system. A Judge was cop, jury and executioner. And it was the Judges who made the mean streets of the MegaCities safe and peaceful for its citizens.

EXT. CITY HALL DAY

Through a veritable spaghetti of overhangs, ezziglides and overzooms we see a towering building in the shape of an eagle. We can only see so far up the building as it pushes up into a shroud of smog and clouds.

Outside the fortress-like building with grey talon wings is a monumental statue of Judge Fargo, founding father of the Judges of MegaCity. Under this we see, "JUDGES ARE LAW."

By the statue is a YOUNG COUPLE in wedding attire with SEVERAL cheerful and overweight FAMILY MEMBERS and a DOMESTIC ROBOT that says Leisure Inc on it. They shower the couple with rice as they happily make their way down the tiered grey slate steps that lead to hovercrafts on the street below.

The HOVER CRAFTS wait with electronic displays "Just Married" in their rear windows. We hear things like MEGACITIES BEST HONEYMOON TOUR SEE THE WONDERS OF THE WORLD IN AN HOUR ONLY 180 CREDS. Various Just Marrieds spill off the stairs and gather round the TOUR GUIDES that stand outside their automated robo-cabbies.

We follow THE HANDSOME COUPLE as they get in the robo-cabbie as the BEST MAN gives the Guide creds and family members weep and cheer. Off the cabbie goes as the couple looks back and waves.

INT. HOVERCRAFT DAY

The COUPLE, both in lux-dress suits shimmer in happiness as they sit in the fur lined taxi and glide through their favorite Megatropolis. The air corridor is crowded with blimpverts for HAPPY GUM, ALI BABA'S VIRTUAL PALACE, LEISURE INC., HI-BALL and other 21st century perks.

The craft ascends higher and higher. Through the cloud and smog barrier until we see the mighty beak of the eagle building in the background some six hundred stories high. This marvels the newlyweds.

BRIDE
Charlie Parker. You're the best man I know This is the most romantic day of my life.

GROOM
Frannie Leibiwitz. You're the sweetest gal I know. I wouldn't want to be up here with anyone else.

Hearts melt when we hear a laugh in the cab.

ROBO-CABBIE
(automated voice)
Now young lovers check out the honeymoon virtual tours menu. Only ten creds more.

The couple throw their arms up in excitment, turn to each other and smile when the flat screen blinks on. An option menu of honeymoon holidays brightens the screen. They scroll the list which includes various wonders of MegaCity and the world.

BRIDE
Can we afford it Charlie?

GROOM
Don't think twice Frannie. It's my pleasure.

COUPLE
Wow! Gazzooks! Niagara falls My great grand parents went there.

The couple presses their selection. A flap opens with the head gear. But first the couple smooches as we begin to hear the roar of the mighty Niagara.

It's the sweetest kiss till it is disturbed by A TAP on the glass.

EXT. HOVERCRAFT DAY

Outside their window they are surrounded by JOY RIDING JUVES.

GROOM
Get going you jerk.

ROBO-CAB
I am a fully automated vehicle and can not exceed the sky limit.

GROOM
Are you kidding!

ROBO-CABBIE
No thank you very much. I do notlike to kid.

The hoodlums hovercraft now BANGS and SLAMS up against the robo-cab. The driver MECK, gobbles down pills, howls while his gang in matching zip suits climb out onto the roof and hood of the car.

The Juves like drug crazed acrobats hang and jump doing daredevil feats on the flying machine while Meck slams the robocabbie terrifying the newlyweds. The Juves press utility buttons and on their feet and hands appear clear plasti-suction boots and hand gear. With total glee they leap into midair off their car onto the cabbie leaving the manic Meck dove tailing and swooping behind.

ANGLE ON HONEYMOON CAR

Like giant nats the three gangbangers pounce onto the car and crowd their crazed faces into the windows of the cabbie.

The couple reels back in horror.

GROOM
Come on Cabbie. Turn over. Spill them off.

Now out of their view comes a JUDGE CAR. The couple look at each other in great exhilation of relief.

COUPLE
Yes. Yes.

EXT. VEHICLE

The Juves reel back. Judges mean trouble.

JUVES
Poncemeat. Judges. Let's get out of here.

But the Judge just smiles at the Juves.

INT. HONEYMOON CRAFT

Charlie and Frannie wave frantically at the Judge. While the Juves sit on the car striking their best good boy poses forgetting to put away knives and sticks.

BRIDE
(desperately gesturing through the glass)
Do something !!!!!

But the JUDGE with his female TARABOT escort waves with a stupid grin and then pulls away.

GROOM
Has he gone bonkers.

One of the Juves raises his plasti-pipe presses a tab and like a switch blade the pipe flowers with spikes. The bad boys laugh riotously. With one swift blow the Juve shatters the rear window of the "Just married" sign.

ROBO CAB
This is not permitted.

INT. HOVERCRAFT DAY

Once inside one of the gang works a box and takes control of the vehicle.

JUVE#1
Hello children.

BRIDE
Get out of here.

JUVE#2
Watch your manners sweets.

The box kicks in and the Juve up front takes control of the wheel.

JUVE #2
Joy ride time.

The crew hoots and gobbles pills.

BRIDE
You animals !!!!!!

More hollers as they swoop through the skies like wild bats.

EXT. SKY CORRIDOR

The one Juve drives while the other two sit in the backseat with the couple.

Meck and the Juves play chicken of the skywaves.

This goes on for a bit until Meck sees he is out of fuel. Meck smiles maniacally and then points to the refuse dump below.

EXT. REFUSE AREA

The crafts pull down in the midst of the refuse lot. Drag the couple out.

Two of them pin the girl down while another takes out smiley tape from his utility belt. He wraps the husband with smiles restraining him. He slaps the hubby and taunts him while the bride is pawed.

The big vile monstrous Meck steps up to the girl as his minions restrain her and force the hubby to look on.

Monster Meck hisses. Unbuttons his chest, plated with steel, he presses sex mode, lets out a horrible howl and steps forward. Step by step he approaches towering over the terrified young girl.

MECK
Welcome to your honeymoon, sweets!

He H O W L S and descends upon his prey when a sihlouette covers his form. It's the outline of a helmeted visor.

The Juves cower. Meck looks up and shudders.

Across from him is JUDGE DREDD. Under the red and blue visor that shield the eyes and contour the head is the powerful no-nonsense jaw and thin tight lips of the most famous lawman of MegaCity.

JUDGE DREDD wears a thick latex body suit that zips up with a chain that connects to a large emblematic Judge badge over his chest that says DREDD. His oversized shoulder pads have a fist-size Eagle on one side and a ribbed pad twice as big on the other.

His hands are in thick ribbed plasti-gloves that zip up to the elbows where there are utility pockets. Around his waist an equipment belt with eagle belt buckle and next to that his Data DigitalDiscman. Below bis rubber kneepads are two special handguns which give way to large ribbed boots seemingly six sizes too big.

But Meck is no stranger to Judges.

DREDD
Okay Creep. Let her go.

MECK
If it ain't my favorite Judgey.
Dredd.

DREDD
It's not nice to rough up girls.

MECK
The Judgey's still got no sense of
humor. Why don't they take you out
for some recreation?!

Meck puts his fingers in his mouth and whistles. The Juves release the hubby who runs to his wife. With chains and knives the Juves ready themselves, spit to the refuse, grin teeth and approach Dredd.

MECK
Time for a little rumble. Ah
Dredd. HA HA HA HA HA HA HA !!!!

He gobbles pills.

MECK
Get em boys!

WAM BAM POW. With a few well placed kicks and punches Dredd disarmms the hoods of their numerous weapons and soon gets the better of them. Though one of the Juves is able to restrain the girl holding her hostage.

Dredd lets Meck go.

The cowardly Meck presses his suction flight option and begins taking big hurling steps leaping across great stretches of space running off.

While the Juve dumbfoundly looks on at Meck, Dredd wastes no time dismantling him with a sonic blast from his insert wrist gun. Dredd boing wraps the hoodlums plasti-sealing them. All three of them now are congealed in an inescapable saran-wrap like seal. Judge Dredd helps up the bride as the groom bruised and battered comes to her.

GROOM
Thank you Judge Dredd.

BRIDE
Such horrible creatures.

JUDGE DREDD
Like all law breakers.

Judge Dredd mounts his mighty motorbike and pursues Meck a little speck on the horizon. Meck makes way for Ali Baba's Virtual Palace.

Dredd picks up his Digital Discman.

DREDD
(on discman)
Pick up Perps at the Joe McCarthy Refuse Dump. The sentence, ten years,hard labor.

EXT. GLIDEWAY DAY

Dredd pursues under glideways pass great screenboards advertising Domestic Robots and Virtual Vacations.

EXT. JUDGE FARGO SQUARE DAY

Meck continues on leaping up on a giant judge statue scaling it with his suction boots.

As Meck does JUDGE STROM lollys around while Meck springs up on his boosters to land on the dome of Ali Baba's Palace beyond and on top of it the Nu-Face parlour.

Judge Dredd follows watching Judge Strom below foolishly waving. He can not believe what he is seeing.

EXT. ALI BABI VIRTUAL PALACE

Meck looks about on the glideway and then takes refuge in a small consortium above the dome of the Palace, the NU-FACE Parlour.

INT. NU-FACE PARLOUR

Meck scans hundreds of faces from sixty screens on the prism cube like monitor. Meck zooms and scans with hyer enhanced eyes. It's like a Hollywood Blvd shop with pictures including the likes of Brando, The shah of Iran, Sharon Stone, Ronald Reagan, Prince, Madonna, Mike Meyers, Roseanne, Magic Johnson, Arnold as the Terminator, Napoleon, Nero, Caligula.

MECK
That's the ticket.

From inside his booth, he presses switches and wap zap his face morphs and contorts. Then the face machine. Says. "Toga and Sandals." Fifty extra creds.

MECK
No wreath!

MACHINE
Sure. Twenty-five more creds.

Meck reaches into his pockets where we see M E R G E pills spill out with CRED TOKENS.

EXT. GLIDEWAY

Dredd scans the horizon. Caligula comes out.

JUDGE DREDD
Fashion of Mega-city sure seems strange.

Caligula approaches him confidently.

MECK/CALIGULA
Morning Judge.

JUDGE DREDD
Nice dress citizen.

Dredd's dataman blips recognizing Meck's voice.

JUDGE DREDD
Hold it right there Meck.

Dredd restrains the Caligula looking Meck with a spray of boing gas.

Dredd flips open his discman and calls H.Q.

JUDGE DREDD
(on discman)
Perpetrator at Ali Baba's Virtual Palace.

H.Q.
(off screen)
We're right above you Dredd. We'll come down for the pick-up.

The hover wagon descends onto the spot. ROBO-ATTENDANTS get out as a SMALL CROWD gathers round.

ATTENDANTS
What's the sentence Judge Dredd?

JUDGE DREDD
Ten years, hard labor.

The wagon takes boing Meck away.

Dredd mounts his bike and descends into the city but not before he notices the crowds outside Ali Babi's Virtual Palace.

EXT. JUDGE FARGO SQUARE

At Judge Fargo Square JUVES very young ones run up along the gigantic statue drawing a moustache on the stern face of Judge Fargo. JUDGE STROM stupidly laughs as the juves take pleaure in desecrating this symbol law and order.

Dredd doesn't get it. He quickly circles round and nets the two young juves.

JUDGE DREDD
Learn some respect. That's against the law, kiddies.

Dredd approaches Strom.

JUDGE DREDD
What's the matter Strom?!

JUDGE STROM
It's time to recreate.

JUDGE DREDD
You're acting stupid. Now snap out of it.

JUDGE STROM
Recreation is fun. I told them to do it.

Strom looks over to a Tarabot sitting on a bench smiles to her.

JUDGE DREDD
What's got a hold of you Strom!

JUDGE STROM
To break the law is to know the law and the pleasure there is in breaking it.

JUDGE DREDD
Don't talk nonsense. It's against the law for a Judge not to enforce the LAW. In the cube.

Dredd boings him then talks into his Discman.

JUDGE DREDD
(on discman)
Perp at the Judge Fargo Square.Judge Strom.

H.Q.
(off screen)
Wa Wa wa What!

JUDGE DREDD
(on discman)
Yes. That's right. A Judge. Judge Strom.No one is above the law.

Dredd mounts his mighty cycle and drives into the Mighty Megatropolis.

INT. HALL OF JUSTICE

Down long expansive corridors wrapped and bubbled like a futuristic airport in the great Hall of Justice we see HUNDREDS OF JUDGES, graphics and perp reports. The Judges seem to move in swarms and seem massive and efficient.

In the halls are TARABOTS here and there with Judges. Tara is a product of Leisure Inc. She is the official escort of Leisure Time. We will meet one soon.

Dredd passes a hologram for the leisure time program for the Judges.

HOLOGRAM SERVICE BOARD
Judges are human to. Watch them recreate and have fun.

Dredd shakes his head. This leisure program is something he most seriously disagrees with.

Dredd passes JUDGE GIANT another one of MegaCities strong Judges.

JUDGE GIANT
Hello. Dredd. Ready for leisure.

JUDGE DREDD
Where's Stevens?

Judge Giant yanks his thumb back.

INT. JUDGE STEVENS OFFICE

Dredd stands across from JUDGE STEVENS. He looks fierce like Nick Fury.

JUDGE STEVENS
Don't ask me Dredd. He was fine four hours ago before MegaComp ordered him to take his leisure time.

JUDGE DREDD
Since when?

JUDGE STEVENS
This morning. All Judges in Sector 77 will be processed for leisure time.

JUDGE DREDD
That's absurd.

JUDGE STEVENS
Strom made more arrests than anyone in my division last month. I can not believe that you would arrest him.

JUDGE DREDD
There can be no leniency for a Judge that does not up hold the law. No exceptions.

JUDGE STEVENS
I understand Dredd but...

Dredd's digitalvideodiscbeeper goes off. He picks it up.

JUDGE DREDD
Dredd here.

DISCMAN
Dredd, This is Judge Simp. You have arrested a Judge this morning. Please report to me immediately.

JUDGE DREDD
I'm on my way.

INT. SPECIAL JUDGES OFFICE

The vaulted black halls of SJS ring with a certain fascist aura. In these dark forebodding corridors we sense the total control that this system of law brings.

INT. SIMPS OFFICE

Dredd meets JUDGE SIMP a wizing elderly Judge.

DREDD
What would make him stand by and not take action?

JUDGE SIMP
I don't know Dredd but
(trying terribly to clear his throat)
you can't go around arresting officers.It's not a good show of unity for the force.

DREDD
No one is above the law. Especially those that have been sworn to enforce it.

On the holovizzy comes MR BIGBIG. It is as if Bigbig's been looking on.

BIG BIG
Is that Dredd?

Dredd is taken aback.

JUDGE DREDD
What's this Simp?

BIG BIG
Dredd what are you doing arresting a fellow officer!

DREDD
The law rules in MegaCity! What's going on!

Simp works his throaty pipes when ZZZZZZZSSSSTTTT ! The vizzy goes dead.

INT. BIG BIG'S

MR. BIGBIG is big and smelly and exuberant and fitted with a number of gadgets including including a wrap around skullcap and a hoverchair as he has no legs. Hmmm Hmmm Hmmm he glides along the floor of his room with huge banks and banks of information all with the Leisure Inc. logo. It is as if he is in a giant computer brain.

BIG BIG
(all the while crunching numbers)
No. No. Dredd. You will not stop Big Bigfrom being the biggest entertainment provider in the galaxy. Crime keeps the minions in the palaces and you will not stop crime. You will now come under my control.

Big Big feeds in numbers here, numbers there from his spherical keyboard. He seems a deranged composer joy stick happy at his command and control module.

On the flat screen Dredd's ID# comes up. Then it is feed through a chain of instructions like a Rube Goldberg contraption until it says. JUDGE DREDD REPORT FOR LEISURE. Big Big laughs seditiously and picks up the phone.

INT. JUDGE SIMP'S OFFICE

Simp is on the phone line while Dredd stands across from him. Simp puts down the phone. Throughout he struggles with his gruff voice.

JUDGE SIMP
According to MegaComp Dredd, you're six hours overdue for your mandatory leisure time which means none of the arrests made during that time are legal. Now.. (clearing his throat)I have work to do.

JUDGE DREDD
That can't be.

JUDGE SIMP
It is Dredd. No one is exempt from leisure After all even though MegaCity has the highest employment on the planet with 14% of its citizens working most citizens are on Leisure time and the citizens of this city need to know the Judges know what leisure is.

JUDGE DREDD
Our job is the law.

JUDGE SIMP
Yes and that means you like every other Judge must do his leisure time. You know the ordinance. Too many good Judges have fallen victim to the stress of the job.Report to the holotubes now.

INT. SPECIAL JUDGES DIVISION HALLWAY

Dredd passes other Judges escorted by Tarabots. All along he grumbles.

INT. HOLOTRANSTUBE

Dredd presses the reception button. On the screen a full size young woman, with black hair and pale skin wearing a cool blue padded jumper with white tights, TARA. She is the high end of female construct.

TARA
Dredd, I am Tara,your entertainment bot.

JUDGE DREDD
I get plenty of entertainment on the streets of Mega City, thank you.

We recognize Tara as the self same fembot who escorted the other Judges.

TARA
It's your time Dredd. In fact you're overdue.

JUDGE DREDD
So I've been told.

TARA
No one is exempt from resolution #234343434 initiated by SJS after the Block Wars.

DREDD
When the Judges saved the citizens from themselves.

TARA
Yes. When after the excessive means taken by the Judges the citizens of Mega City passed a law requiring Judges to take two hours of leisure time every six months.

Dredd grimaces.

TARA
Do you wish to break the law Dredd?!

JUDGDE DREDD
No. Dredd does not break the law.

Dredd presses the reception button. AND THERE IN THE FLESH MATERIALIZES TARA EVEN MORE STUNNING LOOKING THAN ON THE HOLO.

She steps out and for a moment Judge Dredd is stupified.

JUDGE DREDD
800 million potential criminals out there and I have to recreate.

TARA
That's right. But first we'll get you into leisure clothes.

JUDGE DREDD
I don't wear leisure suits.

TARA
Is this how you always dress on your dates?

JUDGE DREDD
Judge Dredd doesn't go on dates.

TARA
Well. Aren't I lucky.

JUDGE DREDD
Let's cut the chit chat. I expect to be back on duty in two hours.

TARA
(hand out to the door)
After you.

JUDGE DREDD
(holding his hand out)
No please.

JUDGE DREDD
Let's cut the chit chat. I expect to be back on duty in two hours.

TARA
(hand out to the door)
After you.

JUDGE DREDD
(holding his hand out)
No please.

INT. HIGHBALL ARENA

Tara and Dredd sit in the stands watching HIBALL, a sport that combines kick boxing, football, kung fu and basketball with the aid of air packs. Dredd wears a raincoat and hood.

Down below the action is fast, furious and ultra-violent. Son of Flubber meets Atomic wrestling on methesteroids. Even Dredd doesn't get this kind of workout on the streets of MegaCity.

FIERCE FERGGY clears a path of bodies allowing LONG LEGS IRVING to launch a flying cartwheel that takes him some twenty feet skyward until he slams down a power dunk.

Above the arena and the larger than life image of MAYOR SACHMO the Leisure Inc. scoreboard clicks 45 to 45. Down to the last minute in the game. The MegaCity crowd goes beserk. All except Judge Dredd. His attention is focused elsewhere.

Dredd notices a LANKY FAN in front of a sign that says "no littering on stairwells." The Fan is excitedly shelling Umpty Nuts as he cheers, "LONG LEGS" "LONG LEGS".

While the entire stadium is riveted to the game Dredd's attention is just as intently fixated on this fan. Tara notices Dredd's discomfort.

TARA
You're stressing Dredd.

DREDD
I can not relax when the law is being broken.

TARA
(taking out little device)
My digital stress meter is goingoff the deep end.

DREDD
I'll have to make a citizens arrest.

He attempts to get up but Tara's strong forearm restrains him. FANS around them are going ape.

TARA
Look Judge, you must learn what it's like to be an ordinary citizen. Not every citizen is a criminal.

DREDD
Only potentially.

Dredd forces her arm away and marches off.

ANGLE ON FAN SHELLING NUTS

DREDD
That's against the law citizen.

FAN
Call a Judge. Why don't you!

Feirce Fergy and SEVERAL TEAM MATES roll up and form a ball. It rolls and bounces like a crazy super ball knocking aside the OPPOSITION like pins in a bowling alley. Long Legs spring boards some sixty feet forward off the TAILBACK and power slams the winning point.

FANS go bonkers throwing Umpty Nuts skywards. Thousands of shells shower down on the stairs in violation of the 'no littering' sign. Dredd stands there shaking his head as citizens take no regard for the law.

EXT. ALI BABA'S VIRTUAL PALACE NIGHT

The great domed arena glitters.

In line are ALL SORTS OF EVERYDAY JOES like the lottery lines of today. We notice one man with an especially big brain, HYMIE, THE ENGINEER. Tara stands with Dredd. Excitment and anticipation permeate the crowd.

CITIZEN #1
Must be one of those judges recreating.

CITIZEN #2
Yeah. I'd like one of those sexy bots.

Tara gives a look to the young citizen. He responds favorably.

TARA
How does it feel Dredd to be here with the every day man?!

But Dredd is staring off at a 'no parking anytime' sign beneath which the street is lined with cars.

TARA
You must learn to relax Judge Dredd Now take a deep breath.

But Dredd just buckles his lips together. His strong gaze scans the crowd and the various infractions taking place.

TARA
(looking up at the Ali Baba Marquee beyond which we see the Nu-face Parlour)
Have you ever been?

But Dredd continues to look on disapprovingly as a group of JUVES pull up in a tank like vehicle.

The more we see the crowd the more they seem on edge, glazed and in a nasty hurry to get in.

DREDD
I can't believe that citizens want us to stand by and recreate while criminals break the law.

Just as Dredd and Tara are at the front door the Juves ply themselves into the line. But Dredd stands his ground.

DREDD
I don't think so.

Judge Dredd restrains the head Juve. Firmly holds him by the wrists. He then turns him around.

DREDD
Now, back to the end of the line.

OTHERS down the line look on approvingly. And so the Juves walk off to the approbation of the crowd.

Tara shows the VERY SQUAT TWIN DOORMEN her pass.

INT. ALI BABA'S VIRTUAL PALACE LOBBY

We enter the dream palace from the POV of Dredd.

Inside at first appearance the walls and rooms are magnificent like the movie palaces of old or a Las Vegas casino hall. But it's moist and smelly with WORK CREWS here and there manning giant vacumm cleaners sucking fluids from cracks in the walls as they sweat a horrible fungi.

DREDD
Smells awful.

TARA
It does. But hiball and the virtual palaces are the most popular Leisure entertainments in Megacity.

They squeeze through the CROWDS walking over visible fractures in the floor in some places as big as a foot wide. WORKERS pour V-9 an anti-fungi agent into the cracks. We overhear a worker say.

WORKER
I heards people live under der.

WORKER
Under the old bubbly sculkill bubbling up on us. Naw.

Never mind the smells PATRONS eagerly que up and move through lines like an amusement park. HAWKERS sell pheromone sprays, sexual aids, DOMESTICBOTS sweep up.

INT. ALI BABI'S MAINFLOOR

It's magnificient. All along in various corners there are circles of booths, cantilevered teirs, sleek and soft lite, where images as if projected on smoke, funnel skyward whirling, wafting, mixing and merging. CLIENTS AND PATRONS recline, hooked-in, some in simple, some in more lavish modules. Above the modules we see signs, "Sex" "Violence" "Fantasy" "Action" "Adventure".

DREDD
I don't like it in here.

TARA
Virtuality is the only thing that gives our citizens the vicarious pleasure of criminality.

DREDD
What about the pleasure of good citizenship!

Dredd and Tara are picked up by an escort, the spindly ESCARGO.

DREDD
This is not a healthy place.

ESCORGO
Can I take your coat sir?

DREDD
(possessively keeping it around himself)
No. Thank you very much.

INT. MEZZANINE

Escargo leads the two across the Mezzanine. Across the way there is a raucous laughter, a laughter we have heard before. Dredd turns round to see Meck.

He squints.

JUDGE DREDD
(to himself but Tara hears)
I'm not dreaming yet but I see Meck.

Meck sees the Judge and smiles on crowded round. His meckies pass round an inhaler, tweek their add-ons and take M E R G E.

MECK
H e L L L O W, Dredd.

Meck taunts. Dredd angles his body towards Meck.

TARA
Let him be.

JUDGE DREDD
I thought he was on ice.

TARA
(matter of fact)
None of the sixty-seven arrests you made in the last six hours have stuck.

JUDGE DREDD
That's criminal.

TARA
That's the law.

ESCARGO has already sat Dredd into a module. Pressed open a flap for his headgear which reads Leisure Inc. on the side of it.

TARA
What's your pleasure Dredd?

DREDD
To get on the streets.

A flat screen of various virtual programs comes up on the screen. Dredd chooses 'Action'.

Before Dredd goes into virtuality he looks askance and sees Tarabots with Judges sitting in the cubicles.

DREDD
(to himself)
Other Judges.How can this be law?!
Fifteen more minutes.

Then Escargo slips Dredds headgear on.

INT. ALI BABI'S VIRTUAL PALACE MEZZANINE

While Dredd is under virtuality Tara makes her way across the mezzanine. It is a strange sight a cross between movie watching and video game playing but all privately enacted, each participant closed off to the outside. As CITIZENS sit, recline, move on treadmills or spirals; at various levels images waft and scroll up like liquid lightbulbs.

Tara walks away from CLEANING CREWS and towards a secured area.

INT. COMMAND CONTROL OF THE PALACE

Tara opens out a flat screen from her chest. It is moist and metal at the same time.

It almost seems she is very neatly re-conforming herself through this procedure.

CLOSE IN ON DREDD

We push into the strong jaw and head wrapped in virtual gear.

EXT. CITY STREET (VIRTUALITY)

Dredd has visualized himself as an Old Fashion Sheriff walking the beat. The NICE PEOPLE of his city cower and humble themselves to the mighty law man.

GOOD CITIZEN
(sweeping the sidewalk,waving to shopkeeper across the way)
Good morning Judge Dredd.

JUDGE DREDD
And a good morning to you.

YOUNG SHOE SHINE BOY runs out onto the five and dime sidewalk.

YOUNG BOY
(all pliant)
Can I shine up your boots Judge?

Toothy smile as he looks up to the lawman.

DONUT MAN
Fresh donuts Dredd. How about it?On the house.

DREDD
Dredd pays for his own donuts.

DONUT WOMAN
Hot coffee for the good Judge.

JUDGE DREDD
Make that a protein drink, Mam.

She doesn't get it. But the lawman kicks back and tips up the white brimmed hat. The badge twinkles in the sun.

INT. PALACE

Dredd a relaxed smile on his face. Beyond the Crewmen holding back the bubbly that seems to be quaking up like some strange tar.

Meck reclines with his cronies. Meck has a pouch filled with M E R G E which he gobbles like popcorn. The outline of his body goes soft and gooey as his flesh kinda of wobbles and hangs on his bones. We see a meter that blinks Violence and Sex at the same time in psychedelic strange purple colors.

Meck's mouth slims real disgusting with a weird goo as his sucks up on the inhaler.

On the tier just below Meck is Hymie the Engineer in Adventure mode. Real dry and serious. Above Hymie there seems to be a rip in the ceiling. And it is getting bigger by the moment.

INT. PALACE DARK BACK ROOM

Tara a machine is jacking into her own system which now mimics a person at a console. All in one.

On Tara's screen: we see Dredd's main street. Dredd is sitting with his legs propped up on a railing like a cowboy of the old west. Dredd the lawman tips up his hat smiles.

TARA
(looking on at the Judge)
What a man!

Tara's works the keyboard sweating bullets. She is jacked-into the Palace system and is setting up a variety of protocols that include, nueral monitoring and 'subliminal send' commands.

TARA
Let me in now Dredd.

Tara types into the keyboard. Grpahics zeroing in.

TARA
That's my boytoy.

Tara types "I LIKE TO RECREATE". Presses the send command for the subliminal instructions.

TARA
Right into Dredd's unconsious.You big bully.

INT. PALACE

Mezzanine where we see Dredd, Hymie and Meck. Does Dredd shudder from this foreign command.

Suddenly there is a W A B B L E in the Palace.

Dredd rears from his dream. Just in time to get out of the way of a massive machine crashing down -the synthe-face machine- breaks through the ceiling and crashes through the gaping concrete disappearing into the big smelly.

INT. BACKROOM

Tara annoyed rips off her monitoring device. Concrete and plaster fall on her from above. But she is not bothered as much by the accident but her inability to fully penetrate Dredd's unconsious.

TARA
I don't think it stuck. Ponce!
He's pulled out.

INT. PALACE

Dredd rips off the overcoat revealing his Judge outfit.

JUDGE DREDD
This is no time to recreate. This is time for the law.

All around there is chaos.

The marble floor swells open. Dredd rides the waving concrete steading himself while carefully looking around.

The old bubbly W A B B L E S again.

Into the gaping jowls falls Meck trailing M E R G E pills which spill out everywhere. And right after Meck, Hymie falls in. Arggggghhhhhh! Right into the depths of the black bubbly.

There are SCREAMS AND SHOUTS. PATRONS scramble and shake -- attempt to head for the exits everywhere.

The mezzanine with some TWENTY MEGACITITES seems to be split off the cantilevered wall support and is now a jutting piece of concrete ready to collapse.

JUDGE DREDD
(calling up to them)
Stay put. Don't move.

Dredd engages wrist patches from his gloves and trajects teflon coil that anchors the concrete slap to the ceiling.

Literally now the slab hangs from a thread. The citizens seem paralyzed by fear.

JUDGE DREDD
Calmly Citizens. One at a time.

And so one after another, innocent and thug alike jump into the arms of Judge Dredd from some fifteen feet up.

After helping each of the citizens from the mezzanine, he turns to one of the bubbly tek workers.

JUDGE DREDD
Where's the proprietor?

INT. BACKROOM

Dredd meets with RONNIE FAUST and his brother TOMMIE FAUST. They wear Humpty suits all stripped and colorful with silver add-on helmuts. Sometimes when stressed their indian accents reveal themselves more pronouncely.

RONNIE
No we've never had anything like this happen! It's the old smelly skukill, the palace was built right over it. Twenty-six feet of concrete.

TOMMIE
That's alot of concrete.

RONNIE
I'm telling him that.

TOMMIE
Yeah. Tell him.

RONNIE
But still this mess is growing through.Been going on for years. Some strange irradiated fungi.

TOMMIE
Clorofluropluralhydrsympathegusfuk.

RONNIE
Thanks Tommie.

Ronnie walks over to vats and vats of V-9. Judge Dredd follows.

RONNIE
Started last week.

TOMMIE
Last week.

RONNIE
Tommmie am I doing this or are you doing this.

TOMMIE
You're doing it. You're doing it.You know I get nervous in front of the famous.

RONNIE
Anyway this special lichen we brought in from the Mars terraforming project. Cost us plenty. We thought it would take away the smell and contain the fungi.

JUDGE DREDD
It seems it had the opposite effect.

RONNIE
We hoped it would transform the fungi into something much more pleasant for the dream palace.

TOMMIE
Something smelling like a strawberry daiquiri.My favorite drink.

RONNIE
All right Tommie please.

Ronnie hits him over the head.

JUDGE DREDD
Right now I want this place closed down.

RONNIE
You can't do that!

TOMMIE
Blease it. No. You can't.

JUDGE DREDD
I just did.

RONNIE
No please don't do that. Our...

Tara steps in.

TARA
Yes Dredd you have two more minutes of rec time. You can't give orders.

JUDGE DREDD
I will and I have. For starters you can go back to your toy factory.

TARA
(smoldering)
You'll learn to recreate Judge!

JUDGE DREDD
Your wrong there sister. Be gone before before I put you under arrest.

Tara storms off.

RONNIE/TOMMIE
Bu bu but but but.

JUDGE DREDD
Judges. Close all entrance ways and place electric cordons out front. I want this place shut down.

Dredd directs the other Judges who have shown on the scene to cordon the area off.

RONNIE
(following Dredd whose all action now)
Please Judge Dredd you can't close the palace, this is going to cause me a lot of trouble.

TOMMIE
Bleased not to close.

EXT. ALI BABI'S VIRTUAL PALACE

From outside we now see

The lights of the Marquee of the virtual palace shut down. One after another all around the building the lights turned off.

The MANY PEOPLE in line, whine and whimper. Some start getting violent.

Throwing over a trash can. Throwing rocks.

Dredd begins to see that the people are too attached to this thing.

DREDD
What's going on here!

Dredd picks up his Discman.

DREDD
(on discman)
Send a hundred squad cards to Ali Baba's.It looks like a full scale riot is about to brake out.

EXT. CITY SQUARE SPINX NEWS

Sphinx news a towering screen set into a Sphinx sits above a minimart. On it we see footage of Ali Babi palace being evacuated.

Then the anchor PENNY NEWS comes on.

PENNY NEWS
Famous lawmen Judge Dredd was at the scene serving his mandatory two hour leisure time. Thank drokk he calmed the people and evacuated the palace. We interviewed him there.

CITIZENS in the square say things like, "That's right. Thank Drokk for Judge Dredd." "Hey Hey. That's right."

ON SPHINX SCREEN:

PENNY NEWS
Is is true some citizens disappeared into the big smelly.

JUDGE DREDD
Some people were swallowed up. That's true.We're looking for them now.

PENNY NEWS
And the subsequent riots?

JUDGE DREDD
Everything is under control.

PENNY NEWS
How did you like your rec time Judge?

JUDGE DREDD
This whole leisure thing is a crock.Judges are here to do a job not to be forced to take time off. It breaks their focus and concentration.

DAN NEWS
Many of us couldn't agree with you more Judge. But what about the block wars when the Judges got out of hand?!

JUDGE DREDD
It was the people that got out of hand Anyway to ressurect old democratic ideas that have had their time would just be opportunism on some peoples part. Thiscity needs law and order.

DAN NEWS
I agree Judge Dredd. Thanks for keeping our city safe.

T. BIG BIG'S

Mr. Big Big watches the vizzy in silhouette.

BIG BIG
That's right Judgey. You're a lucky man we didn't get inside your skull tonight.

EXT. ALI BABI'S VIRTUAL PALACE

In the abandoned backlot outside the Palace the sidewalk opens and a gush of S L U D G E pours out and settles like a seething puddle.

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INT. BIG SMELLY SEWERS

From many meters below the surface streets of Mega City Judge Dredd looks skyward through a concrete grate where he sees the dimmed marquee of Ali Baba's above.

In front of him in the depths of the sewer a SEARCH TEAM dressed in anti-bacteria suits gather round analysis equipment perched on the edge of the big smelly.

From his DataDiscman Dredd scans the digital 'missing persons report'. We scan with him and see the faces of Meck and Hymie. Under Meck we see," pathological deviant 213 arrests, robbery, assualt, organ grinding, larceny forgery (Dredd speed scrolls 75 other infractions) 7 years served on the penal colony of Titan. Arrest of 9/26/22 rescinded.

DREDD
(to himself)
Who could let out such a creep!

Now Dredd scrolls Hymie Hyman. MegaCorp engineer, fifteen years on the city force, steady worker, no arrests, no infractions. More missing persons scroll up when Dredd is called over to the make-shift monitoring station.

Dredd turns his attention to the cluster of imaging monitors manned by several TECHS.

TECH #1
We've now covered a thirty mile radius Judge Dredd.

TECH #2
Our sonar probes should image anything in there that looks even remotely human.

TECH #1
There's no sign of anyone.

JUDGE DREDD
You're telling me they upped and disappeared.

TECH #1
Unless they were swept away by the current.But with the stagnation of the Big Smelly there's no way they could have cleared even a five meter area.

JUDGE DREDD
Let's look again.

TECH #1
The only thing I <u>am</u> getting is some strange biomass movement. But what ever it is, it's not human.

But Judge Dredd is not satisfied. Up ahead in the cavernous tunnel a strange GENETIC/MECH DOG and a TECH sniffs along the banks of the bubbling gulch.

The mechanical dog finds some thing and begins to whine as lights go off behind its ears.

Close up we see tabs of M E R G E.

DOG TECH
(quietly)
That's a good dog.

The Tech quietly pockets the tabs. Then looks off to the Search Team. Shakes his head.

DOG TECH
Just some rocks. Sorry.

Dredd notices.

JUDGE DREDD
Hold it citizen.

Dredd steps through the smelly.

JUDGE DREDD
What have you got there? What's in your pocket?

Reluctantly the Tech takes the tab out of his pocket places it in Dredd's open palm.

JUDGE DREDD
What's this?

He reads the letters. M E R G E . The Tech gets all bubbly and stupid as if registering a contact high.

DOG TECH
Stuzzy stuff. Makes you melt and wobble like you're falling off your bones.

JUDGE DREDD
Sounds disgusting.

DOG TECH
Yeah. Totally stuzzadelic high.

JUDGE DREDD
You're under arrest citizen for the obstruction of justice.

DOG TECH
Oh! Judge.

Dredd hands the M E R G E tab to ANOTHER of the Techs.

JUDGE DREDD
Take this and V-9 over to the lab.Tell me what they do to each other.

An arc of light. ALI BABA'S VIRTUAL PALACE lights up like a chanukah tree as its letters reflect on the surface waters of the smelly.

Up above we see the lights of the Virtual Palace go on. We hear cheers from the public. Even some of the Techs.

Dredd registers annoyance.

JUDGE DREDD
I gave orders to close that place down.

JUDGE HAMMET
Looks like you were overruled Dredd.

JUDGE DREDD
I'll see about that.

Dredd marches off.

INT. MEGACITY POWER DAY

Several of the CLERKS are play-acting Hiball in the computer room.

CLERK #1
The baddest of bad stuffs Poncehead.Fake here. Double twist there. Spring board ninety feet high stuff in your face fool.

CLERK #2
You jive sister.

Dredd storms into the office. The Clerks man their stations. Pretend to work.

JUDGE DREDD
Terminate the power on Harley Davidson Block. I want Ali Baba's closed.

CLERK #2
Easy baby. I can't do that... Judge Dredd, well I'll be.

CLERK #1
(looking up as we pan the badge)
Theee Judge Dredd.

JUDGE DREDD
I'm giving you an order.

CLERK #1
Then it is done Mr. Dredd.

CLERK #2
(clearing his throat then shyly)
But it's that big computer that does everything in this city.

CLERK #1
Uhhh! Yes but we'll check the records and get this mess all straightened up For thee one and only.

And Dredd is out the door.

CLERK #2
Dreddman. Wow!

CLERK #1
Come on fool. Let's jack into this machine and make things right.

CLERK #2
Harley Davidson block.

EXT. HALLWAY

Dredd marches down the hall.

A SERVO BOT approaches.

SERVICEBOT
Dredd, there is a Holofax waiting for you.

JUDGE DREDD
I'm not taking it.

SERVICEBOT
It's inter-galactic.

Dredd moves on but the Servicebot scurries up to him on its treads.

JUDGE DREDD
I don't take vissifaxes any more.

SERVICEBOT
Judge Dredd, it's your cousin Estee.

On the chest plate of the bot is a screen where we see a teen girl, ESTEE.

ESTEE
I am at Port Authority on Disc.Pleasssse I want to stay with you and see Megacity 1.

SERVICEBOT
Step into the transholo Judge Dredd.

JUDGE DREDD
Right now what I don't need is family.

The Serviocebot creaks and whines almost envious of such human sentiment.

SERVICEBOT
Come on Judge Dredd. This is special. Lighten up.

INT. TRANSHOLO

Dredd presses a reception button and beams Estee in. She steps out of the transholo. A very sprite teen girl.

ESTEE
Hi Uncle Dredd.

JUDGE DREDD
Who are you?

ESTEE
Cousin Estee. You don't recognize me.

JUDGE DREDD
No.

ESTEE
We're from the same genetic tree.

JUDGE DREDD
You don't look like me. Let me see your papers.

Estee hands him a floppy passport that Dredd feeds into his discman.

JUDGE DREDD
I'm going to send you home to my robot Walter.

ESTEE
You've got your own robot?!

JUDGE DREDD
That's right.

ESTEE
Oh! Gazzo! I'm so excited to see earth! Is it really like I've heard?

JUDGE DREDD
How's that?

ESTEE
Dangerous and crazy.

JUDGE DREDD
Not.

A lab technician, young and alert, STOLI comes over to Dredd with a beautiful multi-faced stone.

STOLI
Hi Dredd.

JUDGE DREDD
What's up?

STOLI
(holding out the stone)
This.

Estee chimes in.

ESTEE
V-9 a lichen used for the terraforming of Mars.

STOLI
Yes. The latest. Very unstable but proven effective though not in this case.
(to Estee)
How did you know V-9?

ESTEE
I'm a Mars Baby. Pioneer and scientist. When the terraforming got out of control we had to stop it. Used V-9. Hi. I'm Judge Dredd's cousin, Estee.

STOLI
Stoli.

They seem struck by each other. Shake hands.

STOLI
(like coming out of a trance)
Anyway V-9 is a destabilizing agent with a very erratic cycling schedule.

ESTEE
It takes things apart as well as re-constitutes them.

STOLI
All in a very short period of time.

JUDGE DREDD
Where are our missing persons then?

ESTEE
Maybe they've taken another form.

STOLI
(beaming)
Improbable but possible. This stuffis molecular.

JUDGE DREDD
Brief Estee Stoli. Then have my robot Walter collect her.

Estee beams. So does Stoli. Dredd marches off.

INT. BIG BIG'S PENTHOUSE

Mr. Big Big hovers up to his window. There he sees that the lights of Ali Baba's Virtual Palace have again been turned off.

BIG BIG
Drokk that Dredd. He's costing me a small fortune in profits.

Mr Big Big in silhouette hovers his chair back and forth. Lights run round his skull cap.

BIG BIG
To run Mega-City I have to control the Judges. But this Dredd.

Mr. Big Big hits the phone.

BIG BIG
(to speaker phone)
Simp.

EXT. BACKLOT OF ALI BABA'S DAY

TWO Youngsters, ALDY AND MILLER, curious early teens walk along the outskirts of the virtual palace. The magnificient

marquee lights are off and here and there we see ramparts and chain link fence.

ALDY
Let's go in and get some goodies.

Just ahead is something out of the ordinary. A puddle of algae-like goo. It bubbles and breathes shimmering irridescent colors.

MILLER
Geez dude, look at that sludge.

ALDY
Oh Drokk! Why don't they clean up this city!

MILLER
(standing on the periphery of it)
Dude it's weird.

ALDY
Come on Aldy. Let's climb over here and get a dream machine.

MILLER
(turning away from the sludge)
Yeah! Okay.

The Juves mount the fence.

MILLER
This is criminal you know.

ALDY
No it's not. They've closed the place. Come on.

Up the fence they go as we see the dome in the near distance.

But as they do, SOMETHING BEGINS HAPPENING TO THE SLUDGE. It wobbles and warps and begins to metabolize as if filling-up with air.

The Juves continue scaling the fence when the silouhette of an unstable shape creeps up on them.

Feeling the chill of the shadow the young teens turn round to see S L U D G E . They scream in horror.

Part Mech, part Hymie the Engineer, the creature laughs hideously, spitting out words of the two personalities like a tripped sampling machine.

Aldy and Miller cowar as the shadow covers them in darkness. We hear a scream and an awful squishy sucking sound.

WIPE TO:

EXT. BACKLOT OF ALI BABA'S DAY

There is a gaping hole in the chain link face as it smolders an outline of something that vaguely suggests a human shape. Various PSI DIVISION PERSONNEL examine and take pictures as if documenting a strange sighting.

Dredd is on the same initial sludge spot we found Aldy now joined by MILLERS MOM and REPORTERS. Beyond the Judge Barrier the CUSTOMARY ACCIDENT PARIAH.

MILLER'S MOM
Geez Judge Dredd I always wanted to meet you. You're famous. But I can assure you Miller was a good kid. It was only this
(grabbing Aldy by the ear)
little monster that was always getting him in trouble.

DREDD
Just let him talk citizen.

ALDY
(hyper and shaking)
We were walking along right here being innocent and all and there was a puddle there and Miller was saying how the city was never clean...

MILLERS MOM
That's not true. Miller was never fussy about things being clean.

JUDGE DREDD
Go on.

ALDY
Well then we walked on until we felt something really bent and we turned back and it just seemed to rise up out of the puddle. Before you know it was fifteen feet high, wobbling and moving and then ---whoosh--- it sucked in Miller and dissolved. It just vanished like a cloud in the sky.

REPORTER
What did it look like?

ALDY
(shaking his head)
Like a wob of jelly.

EXT. SPHINX KIOSK

The terrified citizens of MegaCity look up at the giant Sphinx.

Sphinx screen:

REPORTER
(standing beside the outline in fence)
I don't know Penny. It sounds unbelievable. More than likely the product of an adolescent imagination. Perhaps a phantom from the virtual palace.
(shaking his head)
But a creature desribed as emerging from a puddle of goo appeared to two criminal youths this morning. One of the boys said this.

We see Aldy as he describes, SLUDGE.

ALDY
It was big and wobbling like it had two bodies all gooeey and scuzzy. Really stuzzoid.

A drawing is supered in the window.

REPORTER
The youth went on to say that the creature sucked up his friend, Miller and then skulked away.
(pause. shaking his head)
Unbelievable.

PENNY
Thanks Todd.
(turning to camera)
Okay. Well citizens keep your eyes open for the new man in town, S L U D G E. Next a follow up on Ali Baba's. But first a word from the gum that makes you, Happy.

INT. DREDD'S DOMICILE

Dredd's modest quarters is state of the art and hotel clean. It serves him as a place to receive mail and for Walter to collect memorabilia. It is more like Walter lives there and occasionally Dredd comes home.

WALTER the domestic robot is dusting and making house while the tele-vizzy plays in the background a commercial for Happy gum.

ANGLE ON VIZZY

It shows a hardened criminal in stripes and chains dour faced and down. Cut to a colorful product shot of Happy Gum.

Ezztee works at Dredd's comp-module where she has set up her own mini-analysis lab. On her screen we see the surface of Mars, and a lichen that turns rocks into green plant live. This process causes the rocks to molecularly break their bonds.

Estee looks up at Walter making a racket.

ESTEE
Walter. Why are you cleaning a house already clean?

WALTER
Because if I don't clean Judge

Dredd won't need me anymore.

ESTEE
Sit back Walter and watch the tele.

ANGLE ON VIZZY (under which we see the logo for Leisure Inc.)

On the screen the once dour faced criminal snaps Happy Gum then smiles brightly.

ESTEE
Does Uncle Dredd have any... happy Gum?

WALTER
No. The Judge is very serious about his food intake.

ESTEE
Some say he's serious about everything.

WALTER
(beaming)
Yes. Judge Dredd is the most famous lawman in MegaCity.

ESTEE
Okay.

Estee crosses to the fridge but stops short when she sees:

On the tele behind Penny News pictures of riots in front of Ali Baba's.

PENNY NEWS
Sporadic riots continued to break out in front of Ali Baba's this morning. Luciano Bolo spoke with one of the Faust brothers earlier today.

LUCIANO BOLO, Geraldo of tommorrow stands in front of the palace.

LUCIANO
Yes Penny. It seems a lot has been happening around this place in the last twenty four hours. And there are threats of even more disturbances

later today. What is it that makes people come out here? I don't know. But I spoke to Ronnie Faust just minutes ago.

On the screen is Ronnie Faust flying around on a carpet.

RONNIE FAUST
Virtuality allows citizens to be all they can be. It is the mythic ground of today. Super hero. Fetishist. Crazed general. All behind a head set in the most lavish surroundings.

Ronnie beams and parks hovering on his carpet.

LUCIANO
You'll be opening soon?!

RONNIE FAUST
Oh yes. We had just a little glitch with City ordinance but soon the Palace will be open. We're putting in our own generator. See ya soon.

He flies off receding in the distance.

ESTEE
Drokk, what an exciting city!

She turns to Walter.

ESTEE
I want to see the sights and sounds of Mega City. When Does Uncle Dredd come home?

WALTER
Never.

ESTEE
Never! I am suppose to wait until he never comes home. Let's go out.

WALTER
Master wouldn't like that.

Estee opens the fridge. What comes pouring out is a seething concotion of moldy Playdoo. Walter beams in happiness approaches with a vacuum cleaner.

EXT. GLIDEWAY DAY

From his motorbike on the glideway, Dredd looks down at the lights of Ali Baba's as they go on again.

JUDGE DREDD
(to himself)
On and off! Drokk! What's going on!

Dredd watches Judges standing by doing nothing as CROWDS begin to mount and storm the Dome.

JUDGE DREDD
(to himself)
What's happened to the Judges!

Dredd talks to his discman as the crowds storm the entrance way.

JUDGE DREDD
(on discman)
Axel. I've ordered the palace to be shut down.

Judge Axel is on the other end.

JUDGE AXEL
(on discman)
What can I do Dredd! I've got orders to let them in. Simp says with the massive unemployment the palace must be left open --- what have people got if they don't have dreams, Dredd.

Dredd rings off.

JUDGE DREDD
(to himself)
But what would make people riot like this. There must be something in those dreams they have to have.

Down below the public creates mayhem.

JUDGE DREDD
(to himself)
There's one only thing that will stop them. Riot foam.

Dredd gets on his discman.

JUDGE DREDD
(on vizzy disc)
Get me sixty blimpwagons loaded with riot foam right now.

CARLYLE
(on vizzy disc)
But Dredd. Sixty...

DREDD
(on vizzy disc)
Just do it Carlyle.

EXT. ALI BABA'S VIRTUAL PALACE DAY

Dredd cycles down to the chaos below. Much to his chagrin, several JUDGES have joined in with the hundred or so RIOTERS tearing down panels from the entry of Ali Baba's Palace. They seem delirious to get in.

Dredd immediately pulls Judges aside putting them under arrest as they say "let's recreate" "let's recreate".

JUDGE DREDD
What's wrong with the Judges?!

Dredd begins netting off the rioting crowd. OTHER JUDGES join him.

JUDGE DREDD
Get away you creeps, you're engaged in an unlawful activity.

Dredd turns to SIX JUDGES.

JUDGE DREDD

Hold them off while I talk to
the proprietor.

Dredd disarms RIOTERS with baseball bats and gets into the building.

The good Judges do the best they can setting up riot nets to keep the crazed citizens at bay.

Soon on the video screen outside the palace we see Ronnie Faust next to Judge Dredd.

ON LARGE FLAT SCREEN

RONNIE FAUST
(indian accent)
Blease. Please. Not to worry. We are
opening very soon. Be patient people.

For a moment citizens begin to listen.

EXT. JUST BEYOND THE PALACE

Down the street CITIZENS over hear and begin a chain of announcements.

VOICE MESSENGER
The Palace is opening. They're announcing
it right now.

Several TEENS whistle down the block and a chain reaction ensues.

VOICE MESSENGERS
Ali Baba's is opening.

It echoes down city blocks.

VOICE
Ali Baba's ...

The small mob gathers and more and more people began to run towards the palace.

INT. PALACE

Judge Dredd is in the back room with Ronnie whose brother is lighting incense. They look on at a bank of video surveillance monitors that give them full view of what's happening outside.

JUDGE DREDD
Drokk! Just what we don't need. More rioters. We're is that stomm blimpwagon! Calm them down Ronnie. I'm going back out.

Now the walls are beginning to shake. And a hundred people have become two hundred people. Tommie Faust begins chanting.

RONNIE FAUST
Please to please people calm yourselves Everyone can be a superhero. Everyone can have the universe in the palm of there hand. But blease it to be batient.

Way in the distance there is someone enjoying this very much.

EXT. BIG BIG'S PENTHOUSE DAY

From his wheelchair Big Big rubs his hands together.

BIG BIG
They run, they crawl for the Big Big palace. Little do they know what is in these dreams. Yes my kinderr. Where is Simp! I bought him a beeper for Christmas. He's avoiding me this Simp. Him and his Judges. If he wants that new windpipe. He'll call.

EXT. ALI BABA'S

The Judges fight back as best they can. But the rioting citizens have begun to break through the electro-cordons. Dredd and the other Judges restrain those that break ranks. But more and more are coming.

JUDGE DREDD
(looking over his shoulder as he nets off mad citizens)
We can't hold out much longer.

Dredd looks to the skies. Moving in fast are the blimpwagons. And so are the crowds.

JUDGE DREDD
All right Judges let's evacuate.

The Judges take cover inside as the Blimpwagons are now over the Palace. Rioters clamor at the doors.

The Judges take cover inside as the Blimpwagons now spread out over the Palace. Rioters clamor at the doors.

The Blimpwagons canon project riot foam down on the Citizens. Some twenty feet above the crowds the foam breaks out in clusters like beautiful marshmellowy fireworks. The foam falls upon them and with super glue strength congeals them into human jigsaw puzzles.

Many of the Rioters exhaust themselves trying to claw and scratch out of the bonds of the powerful adhesive.

Judge Dredd looks on, his lips buckled under. Around him are SIX OTHER JUDGES.

JUDGE DREDD
Let's cut them out and bring in the Paddy Wagons then book them.

JUDGE HELLMAN
Okay. Judge Dredd.

Judge Hellman takes out his discman and orders Paddy Wagons.

Ronnie Faust steps out on the street. In front of him lay two hundred people wadded up in riot foam.

RONNIE FAUST
(throwing his arms in the air)
Bleased be to heaven. Yes.

His brother follows him holding burning incense.

TOMMIE FAUST

Allah is good to deliver us from these demons.

JUDGE DREDD
Now shut this place down.

RONNIE FAUST
Judge Dredd. I know now why you are so famous.

TOMMIE FAUST
Very famous indeed.

JUDGE DREDD
Why's that?

RONNIE FAUST
Very strategic. Very firm man.

TOMMIE FAUST
Yes. Powerful Lawman.

JUDGE DREDD
Okay sychophants! Contain yourselves. And shut down this nightmare factory.

As Ronnie and his brother hug each other in triumphant relief they begin to hear the rumble of another HUNDRED CIVIES running towards them in holy terror.

JUDGE DREDD
(without pause)
Have those blimpwagons circle back. Hold off the Paddy Wagons. And bring on a reserve truck of Riot Foam.
(looking beyond the marrauding crowd)
Holy Drokk!

EXT. THROROUGHFARE DAY

The Citizens have not come to riot they are running away from --- Sludge. Twenty feet high, Sludge looms behind the frightened populace and with giant strides and huge swatches BEGINS ASSIMILATING PEOPLE. The more people he assimilates the bigger he gets.

Ronnie and Tommie gape in disbelief.

THE BROTHERS FAUST
It's a human devil! Yes!

They run away in fast motion.

Dredd holds his ground fearless.

JUDGE DREDD
Alright you monster, the law is here.
(to the other Judges)
Clear the doors to the palace.

JUDGE LANDIS
But you just ordered us to shut them.

JUDGE DREDD
Let the people in for safety and we'll hold this Sludge thing back.

FAUST BROTHERS
Allah! Praise the Judge. Yes. Yes.

EXT. ALI BABA'S PALACE DOORS

And so to the horror of the Faust Brothers the Judges ax and shoot open the palace doors.

TOMMIE FAUST
Maybe we kissed the lawman's feet too soon.

Tommie retreats to his office.

The maddening crowd is directed inside as the Judges do all they can to keep them from stampeding one another.

MOTHERS and CHILDREN and EVERDAY CIVIES scream and crowd in.

JUDGE DREDD
(eyeing down the Sludge)
I'll have to divert it.

EXT. THOROUGHFARE DAY

Dredd mounts his law master. Rides up next to Sludge, now maybe sixty feet high. Wobbling and unstable.

Dredd and Sludge are the only ones on the thoroughfare.

JUDGE DREDD
All right you lug. I'm taking you down to City Hall.

Dredd looks forward to see that the thoroughfare leads right into Mega-Comp, Mega-City's enormous records computer.

JUDGE DREDD
(to himself to audience)
This could be the worse case of technical sabotage ever. Got to stop him.

Dredd pulls the lawmaster up next to the Sludge. As he gets close he begins to adhere into it.

Dredd takes out his stum gun and begins firing. Shooting stumm rays into the beast he repels against the gelatin creature. He tries to direct the Sludge to take the corner as it swats at him.

JUDGE DREDD
Come on lughead take the corner.

The Sludge continues swatting at the small Judge. His bulbous face bright and stupid.

Just one intersection seperates Sludge from MegaComp sitting like a deadly target ahead.

Like a circus master Dredd shots Sludge with his stum gun trying to force him to wobble sideways as the intersection comes ever closer.

Up ahead turning into the intersection is a truck labelled 'Riot Foam'. But Sludge is not precisely aligned to hit the truck.

And though Dredd fires the Stum gun again and again Sludge stays on course not quite lined up to the Riot Foam Reserve Truck.

JUDGE DREDD
Time to play taffy.

But the Sludge looks down at him and grumbles.

JUDGE DREDD
I guess that's no. Okay.

Dredd drives up close allowing himself to get wadded like gum to Sludge. He does all he can not to get sucked into the beast but just enough to get attached like a string to a great big balloon. With this elastic cord he leans the powerful motorbike away from Sludge using it like a tiller lining the Sludge right up to the truck. At the last possible moment he stum guns himself free setting sail the mighty beast to dock.

KA BOOM SLUDGE HITS THE RIOT FOAM TRUCK HEAD ON. The gel foam wraps around him like Edge shaving cream and soon Sludge is trapped in a clear bubble.

Citizens come out to the streets and cheer. Dredd rights himself up from his crashed landed lawmaster bike.

JUDGE DREDD
The party's over law breaker.

But Judge Dredd has spoken too soon. Inside the bubble of foam Sludge begins to crackle and compress.

The Citizens and Dredd look on in horror and disbelief.

The soft outline of Sludge's body loses form and like a black hole whirls within itself disemboding. Burning through the riot foam taking it and a street sign and an automobile into its form it gets smaller and smaller until its final drops disappear falling through a sewage grate.

Judge Dredd steps forward as the metal on the grate sizzles and cracks.

JUDGE DREDD
Holy Drokk!

INT. BIG BIG'S

Mr. Big Big's data central cascades in numbers, profit points, deal earnings. He has a digiscreen that tells him his net worth moment to moment. And when that needle is down Big Big is ticked.

A Tarabot sticks her head in.

TARABOT
It's Judge Simp on the phone.

BIG BIG
Now the coward calls.

Big Big looks onto his vizzy phone monitor.

JUDGE SIMP
(on the vizzy, very hoarse voice)
I'm sorry. It's this Sludge thing.

BIG BIG
I don't care about this SLUDGE. It's Dredd I want stopped. Whose he to give out Riot Foam to stop people from wanting to self-actualize and go to the palace. Arresting Judges. We need to keep the streets unsafe so people will go to the Virtual Palaces. We must stop the Judges and replace them with Tarabots. Leisure Inc. will provide entertainment for this world and all its colonies.

SIMP
(on the vizzy)
But. But this Sludge is a big problem.

BIG BIG
Simp, if you want to reach the full profits of my master plan, if you want your image looming above the hiball stadium, if you want your new and improved more than a lifetime guaranteed windpipe, you have only one thing to do. Get rid of Dredd.

Zap. Big Big hangs up. Hovers back and forth thinking. All around information cascades about the hundreds of divisions

of Leisure Inc. The Hi-ball clubs, organ farms, condos on Mars, robot plants on the moon, cable channels, virtual clubs across the galaxies. Numbers crunch and tally inside what seems like a great spherical computer/war room.

He turns to one of his Servicebots.

BIG BIG
Where is my Ninja assassin?!

The Servicebots hurriedly exit.

Alone in his digital chamber with its constant cascade of information we see Big Big as the maniacal lonely scrouge that he is. A shell of a man a reptile crying out to be loved.

BIG BIG
(rubbing his hands together)
If I could only get up and do these things myself. Think of the overhead I'd saved.
(sweat pours out of his skullcap)
Calm yourself Big Big. Be calm. Be bigger than big.

Then Tara appears escorted by the Servicebots.

TARA
Tara 2906 reporting sir.

BIG BIG
Yes. You ran the recreate program on Dredd?

TARA
Yes, a man with no sense of leisure.

BIG BIG
I agree. A much too serious man.

TARA
I may have gotten in their just slightly sir but the wobble...

BIG BIG
I know. That's why we're going to try

my new amplification system.

Big Big snaps his fingers and TWO SERVICEBOTS roll out the GIGIAMP.

BIG BIG
Maybe we can grab a fragment and fry whatever minute amount of synapse material he might have up there. Shall we.

Tara opens up her compu-hatch. Then brings out her porta-dream machine. The Service bots connect her into the GigiAmp. Tara keystrokes in the Dredd file.

Big Big rolls over to the vault. Very carefully he hunches over to it. Shoos away assistants already standing clear of him. And very carefully from the vault he takes out the BLACK BOX.

Once in his lap, he tunes in his skull cap and then sends a radio-signal jolt to Tara 2906.

BIG BIG
Shall we.

Big Big's team is readied. The room tweeks with a choral of electric sparks.

INT. CHEM LABS DAY

Dredd stands by Stoli as he looks over a magnifying table. Other TECHNICIANS work on a variety of tests as the various monitors and screens hover with molecular movements.

STOLI
I've been trying to trace the manufacturer but this strain isn't matching up. What we got off the fence and the grate have come from some unknown place and as of yet we haven't unraveled its secrets.

JUDGE DREDD
And the metabolizing cycle?

STOLI
Its rate of change and the various forms

it takes seem very erratic. Besides the V-9 and M E R G E we do know that there are atleast two individuals in this mix.

ASSISTANT
And who knows how many more.

STOLI
That's right.

On overhead screens we see a progression of composited photographs of Hymie and Meck and then mixed in silhouette bodies and finally a car and a tree imaging an animated sequence of an ever-enlarging Sludge.

STOLI
(stumped)
But that something effecting change. It's unknown to us Dredd.

ASSISTANT
Could be that some of the compounds are impure and off the streets. After all one of our Sludge entities is not exactly a pharmaceutical prescription sort of .... juve.

JUDGE DREDD
Let's hit our snoops and see what we can dig up on the streets.

Into the lab JUDGE FLAV enters with a digital clipboard.

JUDGE FLAV
Here is the property damage report Judge Dredd.

Dredd scans the digital list but stops the scroll at the Synthi-face machine.

JUDGE DREED
(he ponders -- then)
I've got it.

Dredd grabs his temples as if seized by a headache.

Stoli looks to Dredd clearly reeling in pain. Gripping his temples.

STOLI
I've heard of brain storms Judge Dredd but what's happened.

JUDGE DREDD
(with difficulty)
Something is -- trying -- to take over -- my mind.

STOLI
DREDD!?

Other technicians in the lab look on. Judge Dredd's normally stern face goes slack and stupid.

JUDGE DREDD
Recreate. I want to recreate!

Those around Dredd break into tears. Swoon.

JUDGE DREDD
I'm giving up on MegaCity. I want to recreate.

HEARTBROKEN TECH
You can't Judge Dredd.

CHEM TECH
We need you!

STOLI
Someone quickly. To Psi division.

Judge Flav hurries down the hall to PSI division.

INT. PSI DIVISION

PSI Division is bustling with OUIJI BOARD FANATICS, TELEKINETICS and assortment of OTHER PRACTICIONERS OF THE PARA-NORMAL.

Judge Flav gets to the front desk.

PSI LECHNER

(reading him)
I know. She's in the back.

JUDGE FLAV
Thanks Judge Lechner!

Judge Flav walks under hovering spoons that form a question mark back to: JUDGE ANDERSON, PSI's beautiful number one Psi-Judge.

WIPE TO:

INT. CHEM LAB

Judge Anderson stands over Dredd, her fingertips placed at his temples like a divining rod queing into all his psi force. All around the room the Techs look on with rapt attention as if Anderson were performing a craniotomy.

Needless to say she is deep in concentration.

JUDGE ANDERSON
I've got to draw it out.

A shiver runs through the PSI Judge.

JUDGE ANDERSON
Its.... like ... a bad spell.

In the iris of Judge Andersons's eyes we see hypnotc spinning letters that read, "I want to recreate."

INT. BIG BIG

Big Big squints as his skull cap sparks. He seems in total empathy-link with Tara 2906. Tara is machine calm until -- her forehead laterally cracks snapping open with metal tensors.

BIG BIG
Drokk! My 2906 series. No!

Tara shudders. Sparks fly. The Gigiamp ripples with current. Mr. Big Big's skull cap snaps.

BIG BIG
Drok! Drok! Dredd! I'll get you yet.

Mr. Big Big battens down the hatch of his skull cap.

BIG BIG
Out of here! Now.

The staff skiddoos.

As soon as they've left Big Big hammers on the arms of his wheel chair already raw from tantrums. He is as angry as a terrible two year old. Until he gets the big big idea.

BIG BIG
Sludge. Yes.
(relishing it)
S l u d g e.
I'll make a deal with Sludge. And he'll take down DREDD.

INT. CHEM LAB

Dredd massages his temples. Rights himself on his feet.

JUDGE DREDD
Thanks Anderson.

JUDGE ANDERSON
No problem Dredd.

JUDGE DREDD
What was it!?

JUDGE ANDERSON
A subliminal command instructing you to recreate.

JUDGE DREDD
There can be no doubt then. The Judges have been invaded. And maybe even the citizens.

Those around Dredd swoon and smart.

JUDGE DREDD
There's mind control in MegaCity.

Gasps echo through the room.

INT. SJS SIMPS OFFICE

Standing across from a very nervous Judge Simp are a cabal of the most unhealthy Judges in MegaCity. One has a nervous tick, another a sinister gaze, another bug eyes, another palsy. They are old, wizened and corrupt.

JUDGE SIMP
First we scramble all department records of those Judges put under leisure time.

JUDGE NERO
Done.

JUDGE SIMP
Next. Those leisure programmed Judges will be wired through a sublim command box so that we can call upon them as a private army at any time our interests are threatened. Therefore we need Simps codes.

JUDGE ROGET
Done.

JUDGE SIMP
Now the plan to eliminate
(looking around clearing his terribly clogged throat only mouthing)
Judge Dredd.

JUDGE THESAURUS
The made-to-look completely legal plan.

JUDGE SIMP
Yes.

JUDGE WEBSTER
The plan that makes us the healthiest and wealthiest Judges in all the megacities.

JUDGE NERO
(as his faltering eyelid closes on him)

That will make Big Big give us his new state of the art organ implants.

JUDGE SIMP
(raspy throat now)
Yes. Of course.

JUDGE WEBSTER
(palsied hand)
And soon.

JUDGE SIMP
Let me carry on gentlemen. First. Monitor all of Judge Dredd's activities.

JUDGE NERO
Done.

JUDGE SIMP
(barely audible)
Download skylabs recordings of all Dredd's recent arrests.

JUDGE ROGET
Done.

JUDGE SIMP
Now!
(not quite coming out)
When to strike.

Judge Roget turns to us showing his hearing aid.

JUDGE ROGET
WHAT!

JUDGE SIMP
(disgusting throat noises)
When to strike.

They old Judges all beam; bug eyes, sinister face, the twitch, the palsied one, hard of hearing.

JUDGE SIMP
Come closer.

And so the GANG OF FIVE huddle closely.

EXT. GLIDEWAY TWILIGHT

Passing a giant Leisure Inc. billboard for Servicebots Dredd rides his lawmaster.

DREDD
(into discman)
Yes I'm fine. Walter. I'll meet the snoop. Then one protein shake and we'll send her back to Mars. See you at ten. At Sphinx.

Dredd roars away on the teired glideway as honeymoon hovercrafts past holographic billboards.

EXT. SPHINX KIOSK

The Kiosk at night has the feel of a Moroccan swap meet. Judge Dredd is huddled in a corner with an INFORMANT, SID THE SNOOP.

SID THE SNOOP
That's right it was routed through a lab by a man named Big Big. He owns the leisure palaces. He owns Leisure Idustries and in fact...

EXT. KIOSK UNDER THE SPHINX

Walter the robot and Estee look on at HARRY THE HEALTHY ONE as he throws all sorts of strange things into a Hamilton Beach Blender. Estee marvels at all the activty buzzing around the casbah.

ESTEE
Gazooks! This is stuzzo, Walter.

It's smoky and low tech/hi-tech, Morrocco meets MIT.

HARRY
(handing Estee the shake)
Just like the Judge likes it.

Harry hands the frothy shake to a beaming Estee.

ESTEE

Dee-lite-ful.

WALTER
I think she likes it.

We hear Sphinx news:

PENNY NEWS
It's ten o'clock. Welcome...

WALTER
(panicky)
Where is Judge Dredd?

ESTEE
Relax already Walter.

WALTER
No! Master is never late.

CLOSE ON SPHINX NEWS

PENNY NEWS
We start with a special message from the normally reclusive CEO of Leisure Inc. A man who says he wants to help the city he loves in this time of crisis...

EXT. SEWAGE GRATE NIGHT

Near a steaming heap of garbage is a sewage grate from which crawls out a small pile of goo.

Almost before our eyes it materializes into someone we've seen before. Though his outline is soft and seemingly consisting of golf ball sized particles it stabilizes enough that we recognize him as Hymie the Engineer.

Hymie himself seems waken from a dream. Unsure of his own presence. There in front of him he sees on the Sphinx news terminal, Mr. Big Big.

Hymie/Sludge looks on at Mr. Bigbig's offer.

BIG BIG
We at leisure Inc want to help quell

the fear of this strange and fantastic entity and hope that you out there will come to us with information or you Sludge as you are affectionately called will come personally. I'll accept collect calls. Phone 9999999 that's 7 nines.

And a ring of nines skirt around Big Big's skull cap.

EXT. KIOSK NIGHT

Looking up Sid recognizes the man he is talking about.

SID
That's our man Dredd. He's the man that made M E R G E .

JUDGE DREDD
Big Big. Okay Sid.

Dredd approaches Harry's while watching the monitor of Sphinx. But before he gets too far SIRENS BLARE as five SJS squad cars pull up into the square.

JUDGE UDO flanked by EIGHTEEN CORRUPT JUDGES parts the frightened crowd as he and his men march towards Harry's in phalanx formation. They surround Dredd.

JUDGE DREDD
Hello.

JUDGE UDO
Judge Dredd you're under arrest?

JUDGE DREDD
What's the charge.

JUDGE UDO
The obstruction of the rights of citizens.

Estee and Walter peer over the crowd and look in as two Judges handcuff Dredd.

JUDGE DREDD
Who sent you?

JUDGE UDO
We're to take you to SJS.

JUDGE DREDD
You have no case.

JUDGE UDO
We'll see about that.

The SJS officers forge a path through the crowd stalking off with Judge Dredd. Walter screen goes bonkers. Citizens gawk and whisper. Estee quickly follows the departing entourage when she is approached by Sid the Snoop.

SID
Cousin Estee.

ESTEE
How do you know my name?

SID
I'm a snoop. Work for the good Judge.
Come on. There's no time to waste.

ESTEE
(turning back to Walter)
What about!

SID
He's old enough.

Sid takes Estee's hand as they hurriedly pass a shimmering unstable Hymie sneaking a quick kabob from an unmanned grill.

HYMIE
That's 99.. 9 ...

Out front by the hydro-cycles is a Happy Gum truck. The UNIFORMED DRIVER is packed in at the back of the crowd watching the blaring sirens peel away in the distance.

Sid looks to the truck. Grabs Estee. Gets in.

SID
Lets' go.

ESTEE

Holy stomgas. Wow.

Off they go in pursuit of the sirens.

INT. SJS SPECIAL CHAMBER

The Gang of Five sit in an oval shaped tiered chamber. Below them shrouded in a single spotlight is a handcuffed Judge Dredd

Over the following footage Judge Simp narrates with a bit of spin control. All the while struggling with his faltering voice.

JUDGE SIMP
Need we go on.

JUDGES
Yes. Yes. Yes.

Image: Dredd halting Meck from assualting the bride.

JUDGE SIMP (voice over)
Dissuading a citizen from his natural inclination towards intercourse.

Image: Dredd holding back Rioters outside Ali Baba's.

JUDGE SIMP (voice over)
Interfering in our citizens right to express their enthusiasm towards their favorite past time.

Image: Trying to stop Sludge on the lawmaster.

JUDGE SIMP
The hampering and discrimination of the free concourse of foreign or alien entities. Have we seen enough?

JUDGES
Here. Here.

Low angle looking up at Simp.

JUDGE SIMP
It is in explicable to us that you

as a Judge would be engaged in these activities Dredd. We are only glad that we were able to collect the above footage from our sky satellite that lets us keep a gods eye on our imaginative and criminal populace so that we may now with good conscience prosecute your case for the welfare and good of the citizens of MegaCity.
(turning to the other Judges)
Panel.

JUDGE NERO
(his eye faltering)
Let justice be served.

JUDGE DREDD
This is a sham.

JUDGE THESARUS
(indignant)
Contempt for the law.

JUDGE WEBSTER
(his hand shaking)
How dare.

JUDGE ROGET
Who would have thought!

JUDGE THESARUS
Though Titan is our worst penal colony it may not be severe enough.

JUDGE SIMP
I'm sure you have something to say.

Judge Dredd raises his hand.

JUDGE SIMP
But we don't need to hear it.

JUDGE ROGET
We have no time to hear his regrets.

JUDGE SIMP
Shall we vote.

Each of the Judges presses a set of switches by their chair. A little computer box tallies the sentence.

JUDGE SIMP
1100 years on Titan. Take him away.

The spotlight on Judge Dredd fades.

INT. PADDY WAGON

GUARD UZO a beefy stern looking fellow stares down the line-up of HARDENED CRIMINALS.

Midway down the line we see Dredd in prison garb and chains.

EXT. X-PRESSWAY NIGHT

The Paddy wagon shaped liked a tank, escorted by rear and tail mini-wagons approaches the airport.

The Happy Gum truck swerves close behind the tail car then pulls up within viewing distance of the Paddy Wagon.

INT. HAPPY GUM TRUCK

Sid drives as Estee beams with adrenaline and excitment until

EXT. RESTRICTED COMPOUND

The Paddy Wagon enters a restricted zone and heavily guarded gates shut leaving them behind.

INT. HAPPY GUM VEHICLE

Sid and Estee sit in the Happy Gum car, stumped. Behind them are packages and packages of Happy Gum and workers paraphernalia.

Through the windsheild of the Happy Truck Estee and Sid look on to see:

Through the electric link fence and guard tower Guard Uzo watches the prisoners including a chained Dredd as he crosses the Tarmac.

Prisoner after Prisoner step into the Titan space craft cargo bay as fork lifts carry on rations into the dark belly of the whale-like space-craft.

ESTEE
They can't take Judge Dredd away!
They can't.

SID
Urggh! It's ahh. This is a very secure complex.

And then a light bulb in the truck goes on.

ESTEE
(bing!)
H A P P Y G U M ! Yes! H A P P Y G U M !

Estee turns round to the back of the truck. Grabs the stripped caps that say, "Happy Gum."

ESTEE
(handing it to Sid)
Put this on.

EXT. GUARD GATE

The Happy Gum truck pulls up to the guard station. SIX GUARDS man surveillance monitors, check points and a tower just overhead.

A GUARD steps out to the truck to Sid and Estee wearing Happy Gum caps and jump suits.

SID
Happy Gum delivery.

GUARD
Happy gum. Gazooks... We didn't...

SID
Want to try some?

GUARD
Well I'm...

SID
Have a stick.

Sid hands the guard a nice stick of Happy Gum. A stick of Happy Gum is the size of a Bit'o'Honey bar and as chewy thick.

GUARD
By Drokk!
(puts it in his mouth starts smiling)
Happy Gum... How can I help you guys?

SID
Where do we load this cargo? And a, where do we find ourselves a hardened perpetrator?

GUARD
You're making one of those vizzyverts. Gazooks. I wish I was a prisoner. They get Happy Gum for life, don't they?

He takes an even bigger bite of the Happy Gum.

GUARD
(smacking that gum and smiling)
Pull up to the ramp right over there. They're loading'em in now.
(calling over to his buddy)
Hey, Billy, want some Happy Gum?

Sid and Estee pull off towards the tarmac in the distance.

INT. THE TITAN INTERGALACTIC BAY

VARIOUS GUARDS stand at the hatch doors. They look on at the HARDENED CRIMINAL PERPS, the OP'S, the Old Perpetrators. Each one of them is chained against a hitching post next to a cubby-coffin.

Dredd sits on the edge of his bunk while several OP'S look on at him like "ain't this the famous lawman." But Dredd turns away before any kind of altercation starts.

TWO GUARDS appear escorting Guard Uzo, Estee and Sid. Uzo has a pack of gum in his hands. He's already gone through several sticks of the happy stuff and by this time is glad to oblige.

UZO
(working the lines out of his stuffed mouth)
Line up you scum dogs.

The OP'S rumble and mumble and with a little prodding line up.

UZO
(grinning)
Have your pick.

SID
(to Estee)
Go on.
(shrugging to Uzo like why not)
Don't be afraid.

UZO
They won't bite.
(ra ra ra)
Not with me here.

Estee walks along the line-up of prisoners. Stands by ONE THEN ANOTHER until she comes to Judge Dredd.

ESTEE
Here's a dour looking one.

The OP's laugh it up. Several of them look on like, "isn't that the..." but they're too thick to get it out. Others look on at Estee.

Estee steps just past Dredd. Looks back over her shoulder.

ESTEE
(taking her chance to reprimand him)

Probably never goes home to visit
his robot or his cousin.

Dredd smiles slighty. Estee stops. Then Dredd frowns a real grimace.

Estee looks back to Sid who nods his approval. Guard Uzo chuckles.

GUARD UZO
Looks like a bad one.

Uzo shuttles a finger to indicate to the two guards to escort Dredd out.

ESTEE
Come with us prisoner.

Dredd follows the guards and with Uzo, Estee and Sid exit the cargo bay. Several of the OP's finally get it. It is the famous.

EXT. TARMAC/HAPPY TRUCK

The guards march Dredd out to the truck followed by Uzo, Sid and Estee.

UZO
(still smacking, his stupid
mug going slack)
Undo those chains. Let's see if this
happy gum really works.

The Guards undo the chains.

SID
More gum Mr. Uzo?

UZO
(smacking up a happy storm)
Sure.

The Guards step away turning Dredd over to Estee. Sid hands them some Gum.

Estee stands by Dredd and winks. Unsure what to do.

SID
(to Estee)
Let's set him up by the logo at and see if Happy Gum can really break this criminal.

UZO
(slack jawed)
Yeah!

Guard Uzo and the two Guards all chewing the happy stuff eagerly look on.

ESTEE
Let's move Perp.

Estee acts the guard and walks Dredd towards the back of the truck.

ANGLE ON BACK OF HAPPY TRUCK

And the Hapoy face logo.

JUDGE DREDD
(whispering)
How did you get in here?

ESTEE
(beaming)
I'm your cousin aren't I?

ANGLE ON FRONT OF TRUCK

Sid smilies on to Guard Uzo. Hands the other two Guards more gum.

SID
Let me get the camera.

He steps away to

THE BACK OF THE TRUCK

JUDGE DREDD
Let's move out.

Estee and Sid are about to get in the back of the truck.

ESTEE
Let me drive Uncle Dredd.

JUDGE DREDD
Sorry Cuz!

Before she can say different Dredd pushes them in the truck and closes the doors.

Dredd walks round the side and gets in behind the wheel.

INT. HAPPY TRUCK

Through the windshield Dredd looks on at a bemused Uzo and Guards. Then he floors it and bee lines towards them.

UZO
(laughing stupidly)
Hey! Wait a minute!

EXT. TARMAC

At the last minute Uzo and Guards jump to the side. Uzo lies their splitting in idiotic laughter.

ANGLE ON HATCH DOORS OF THE TITAN

PRISONERS hoot and shout.

PRISONERS
He's going to be happy alright.

GUARD
10 47 Guard tower.

EXT. PERIPHERY TITAN TRANSPORT COMPOUND

Whistles blow. GUARDS man various weapons stations. Line up along the tower.

As Dredd drives head on towards the tower, two armored vehicles rapidly pull up to each other sealing off the exit corridor.

Dredd does a three sixty slaming up against the vehicles.

INT. HAPPY TRUCK

In the back Estee and Sid look on. Armored cars pull up along side and begin to fire.

Dredd scans the horizon. It's like being trapped in a maze with no where to go.

Dredd spies a HOVERCRAFT down the runway.

EXT. TARMAC

He slams up against the vehicle next to him forcing the guard up close to the wall. Then bumps him. Then skids away. Finally he swings him away and into an oncoming car.

KABOOM.

INT. TARMAC

Dred drives full throttle head on to another upcoming armoured vehicle. King of the road. The Vehicle peels off at the last minute.

Dredd gets closer to the hovercraft.

EXT. TARMAC

FIFTEEN SECURITY VEHICLES are in front of him. He sees a cargo dock ramp up ahead.

INT. HAPPY GUM TRUCK

It looks hopeless. It seems like a full army out there.

JUDGE DREDD
Got to leap to the next dominion.
Hang on.

Under fire Dredd gets as much speed as possible then drives onto the ramp.

EXT. RAMPWAY

Like Evil Knieval Dredd takes flight over the rampart of patrol cars. The Happy truck seems airborne for some time.

Guard Uzo looks on and marvels from ground level.

As it bounces onto the ground from some twenty five feet airborne the back doors fly open.

INT. BACK OF HAPPY TRUCK

Estee and Sid hang onto the side panels as all the Happy Gum spills out of the open doors onto the tarmac.

EXT. TARMAC

Dredd pulls the truck outside the hovercraft. It's axles now broken.

Dredd runs out of the vehicle as do Estee and Sid. Guards trip and fall on the Happy Gum others clamor for it.

Dredd mounts the hovercraft. Estee and Sid get in.

INT. HOVERCRAFT

Dredd expertly puts all the buttons in position. Cranks the engine. As he pilots the big craft forward security forces firing away clear out.

JUDGE DREDD
We can't hurt our own forces.

Dredd turns on the water jets.

EXT. RUNWAY

GUARD after GUARD is cleared away by blasts of water.

The hovercraft builds up more and more speedand soon is airborne.

EXT. HOVERCRAFT/GUARD TOWER

With some very fancy driving Dredd escapes the security shield.

INT. HOVERCRAFT

The hovercraft flies through the skies of Megacity.

DREDD
Now let's put it in stealth mode.

ESTEE
Stuzzo.

Dredd thinks out loud as Estee marvels at her favorite new city.

JUDGE DREDD
Judge Simp overruled me and set Mech free.
Why?! Judges have turned against the law.
Why?

He manuevers the hovercraft as Sid and Estee look on at the Leisure Inc. board below.

SID
Someone wants to control the judges.

JUDGE DREDD
And if that someone is Big Big
why does he want Sludge?

ESTEE
Good questions Uncy.

Judge Dredd picks up the vizzy comp radio. Punches in a number.

JUDGE DREDD
Stoli. What have we got?

Stoli beams up on the screen.

STOLI
A Dr. Doo. Inventor of M E R G E.

Can we meet there in ...

INT. LEISURE INC

A beading Hymie stands over the reception desk that has a giant Leisure Inc. logo behind it. Big Big's Tarabots shuffling in out can't help but whisper and gawk taking notice of the poor worried Hymie beading like a pointilist painting.

HYMIE
(to the receptionist)
As I explained to security I am this man!

TARABOT
Well. Yes. You are... different.

Rather self-conscious and ashamed of his present condition Hymie turns away. The Tarabot presses the vizzy intercom to Big Big's.

INT. BIG BIG'S OFFICE

Two Tarabots walk in Hymie.

TARA #1
Mr. Big Big. It's...

HYMIE
Hymie.

BIG BIG
(to the TaraBots)
Thank you. Now get out of here.

Big Big hovers from behind his desk.

BIG BIG
Hello Sludge.

HYMIE
Why do you call me Sludge?!

BIG BIG

That's what everyone calls you.

HYMIE
I'm Hymie and I've turned myself in for the reward in hopes of getting cured.

Big Big laughs sadly. He seems extrodinarily intriqued.

BIG BIG
If only money could give us everything we want. Hmmmm.

Big Big hovers his chair closer to Hymie wanting to touch him. Hymie rattles and begins breaking up like bad television reception.

Big Big pulls his hand back.

BIG BIG
Don't like to be touched, do you?

Hymie starts destabilzing. Big Big shudders.

HYMIE
(with difficulty)
Unfortunately I've had an accident.

BIG BIG
I see. Yes.

Hymie starts wobbling, his flesh drips, barley hanging on to his bones. His shape becomes indefinite, uncertain. We begin to see another person simmering up fading into Hymie.

Meck. Meck solidifies. Mean, insidious. But he too seems to be made up of large size golf balls.

MECK
Hello creep.

BIG BIG
I'm Big Big.

MECK
So what! Got anything to eat?

Meck starts ripping art from the wall and breaking it. The Meck laughs.

Big Big's skull cap drips with sweat. He watches Meck tear through his Manet, "Dejune sur le Herb" then presses a red button on his wheelchair.

BIG BIG
You don't like art?

MECK
Whenever I see culture I get upset.

BIG BIG
Yes. Art can not give us hope I agree.

A Security-Droid comes in and throws a plastic wall of boing protection around Sludge. But Sludge's metabolism just eats it up. More FORCES come in. Sludge takes them all down with demonstrative power.

Big Big rings another button on his wheelchair.

TWO GOURMET chefs come in with platters of food. Porpoise shaped ice sculptures ringed with shrimp. Platters of duck, rare roast beef, asparagus, fruits.

BIG BIG
Is this better?

Meck eats. Tossing aside plate after plate.

Big Big gets a big idea.

BIG BIG
I will hook you up to all the Virtual Palaces. And the city will watch you bring down Dredd.

SLUDGE/MECK
Dredd, that creep. I like that.

Pushing aside a plate.

BIG BIG
Dredd interests you!

Mech turns to him.

MECH
But what do I need you for?

Big Big goes hmmm hmmm. Darting back and forth in his chair. Meck stuffs himself.

BIG BIG
Everybody needs me. I'm Big. Big Big.

Big Big hovers over to a table where there are some M E R G E pills. Meck sees them and lights up.

BIG BIG
You like M E R G E?

Meck grabs them. He swallows the pills and then begins dematabolizing. Big Big practically weeps.

BIG BIG
What! Sludge! No, don't leave me.

But Meck continues to compress and congeal.

Soon he smoulders through the berber carpet.

BIG BIG
(in total panic)
Get him. Put him in a sauce pan.
Quickly you idiots.

The chefs scramble to the floor with ladles. There is not much there but a smouldering burnt rug surrounding a ventilation shoot.

Big Big stammers pounding on his chair.

BIG BIG
Get out! You stupid idiots.

INT. DOCTOR DOO'S MENAGERIE DAY

DR. DOO is tall and spindly with web hands and an ostrich neck. He seems like a creature from Dr. Seus, fantastic and strange as is his laboratory.

Judge Dredd back in uniform, Estee and Stoli listen in.

DR. DOO
We did every thing to bring them back organically. M E R G E was the best thing we had and it failed. Let me show you.

Dr. Doo presses a button which raises a light screen. We look on at a very strange, dark, MENAGERIE OF FANTASTIC AND HORRIFIC CREATURES.

Dredd, Estee and Stoli look on with incredulity.

ESTEE
This is in-cred-i-ble!!

She steps up to the glass and looks on at the strange animals.

ESTEE
(moved)
He wanted you to find a way to graft legs onto to him?!
(amazed and frigthened)
And you came up with this.

DR. DOO
Yes and the Tarabot system all of whom are integrated and hooked up to him.

JUDGE DREDD
What do you mean?

DR. DOO
He would be the mind and everyone else his extentsion.

Estee and Stoli turn away from the Menagerie not liking what Dr. Doo is saying.

DR. DOO
The Tara's are the mechanical version and M E R G E would be the organic version. M E R G E was the great discovery that failed and being the profit megalomaniac he was - he spun it into an entire industry.

Dr. Doo's webbed hand wipes his brow. Sweating from the forehead.

DR. DOO
It was a glandular problem. We couldn't stop the sweat. Nothing held. So M E R G E. It didn't work.

ESTEE
Designer pets as leisure products ?!

DR. DOO
You haven't seen them. There in all the parks. The pets were a write off after years of trying to salvage him. And yet the success of these animals only made Big Big more pained. Made him feel strange.

ESTEE
And now he wants to turn Megacity into his own menagerie.

All eyes turn to Estee. Dr. Doo lights up.

DR. DOO
You're not from here?

ESTEE
Mars.

Dredd and Stoli look at each other. Are they missing something.

STOLI
And M E R G E ?

DR. DOO
He's still addicted to M E R G E though it doesn't do much to him anymore. I know its gotten into the hands of juveniles now saying things like stuzzadelic and all. They think wobbling is cute.

STOLI
What's it do exactly?

DR. DOO
You mean how's it made this Sludge?

STOLI
(surprised)
Yes.

DR. DOO
I am a scientist like yourself Dr. Stoli. I am watching this case.

ESTEE
And?

DR. DOO
When Mech and Hymie spilled into the Big Smelly they took hold of a lichen B-9 agent, that's a stabilizer that's been used on Mars to stop lichen from continued reproduction.

ESTEE
And you had tried it to counteract M E R G E.

DR. DOO
That's right. He had developed it to protect his organ farms on Mars.

STOLI
You're saying V-9 and M E R G E and Hymie and Meck and what ever was in the Big Smelly created SLUDGE.

DR. DOO
That's right. But there's something else.

JUDGE DREDD
(matter of factly)
The Synthi-face machine.

Stoli and Estee beam turning to Dredd. So does the mysterious Doo.

DR. DOO
The Synthi-face machine. Of course. These elements mixed in with the synthi-face machine formed this creature of unusual complexity.

ESTEE
Sludge, an unstable element that at one time can be 60 feet in size and then at others 2 inches and rest in the palm of your hand.

DR. DOO
Exactly.

STOLI
How does it assimilate people?

DR. DOO
It just takes them and dematabolizes them. The M E R G E does and the V-9 is suppose to stabilize them. But the cycle never stops.

ESTEE
So everybody that it's absorbed could come back?

DR. DOO
Yes. Yes. You're right.

ESTEE
Maybe we can decouple the elements. And UNMERGE them.

Stoli is impressed. One of the creatures makes a strange sound. They look back at a creature that looks like a giraffe with zebra stripes. He kicks up dust that shimmers in the air.

DR. DOO
That's if some kind of spore contagent doesn't kick in and Sludge absorbs the whole of Megacity.

DREDD
We've got to to stop it.

STOLI
But why would Big Big ...

DR. DOO
Big Big sees in Sludge the breakthrough

he had hoped for...

Dredd, buckles his lips under.

INT. SJS DAY

In the offices of SJS Mr. Big Big sits back in his motorchair looking more like a throne as he is surrounded by TEN TARABOTS now in NINJA-MODE.

His GESTAPODROID stands over Simp.

BIG BIG
I initiate the mandatory leisure hours and still you can't control the Judges for me, Simp.

Big Big waves his hand back and forth tele-remoting the Gestapodroid who slaps Simp around. Sparks fly around Big Big's skull cap as he takes great pleasure in this sadism.

BIG BIG
I even started the block war by taking away entertainment for a week. Watch the Judges recreate and have fun. Why? So I could get into the Judges brains. Dredd - Sludge they think they run this city. You failed me Simp. Even after I promised you and your friends the best organs money could buy. How could you let Dredd get away?! You bonehead!!

Slap. Slap. Slap. Back and forth. Sweat pours forth from Big Big's skullcap.

A Tarabot steps forward. Opens a pill box with M E R G E. Big Big swallows it tenaciously.

BIG BIG
And Sludge -- you can't even get ahold of him for me. Too many chances Simp.

Mr. Big Big's hand curls up in glee, goes spastic on him like Dr. Strangelove.

BIG BIG
Do you know what I am going to do

you idiot. Now that I control the unconsious of the city's populace. Yes. The Judges. The people. They'll all do what I want. You see this little box in my hand, every Judge whose been on the recreational plan has a little subliminal in their head. Yes. If I want them to jump into the Big Smelly. They'll do it. If I want them to eat Leisure cereals, they eat. And why? Because this is the city from which I will make great things.

Simp begins to whimper.

BIG BIG
I will get into the city's cybernetwork and gain control of all its assests. I will create a new race of men/machines. Worthy of this city. Worthy of a leader like me. I will make Alvin Toffler proud!@!

JUDGE SIMP
(with disdain)
I should never had made a deal with you.

BIGBIG
But you're only human, wanting more life than you should have.

JUDGE SIMP
(fighting back -- his voice but a squeak)
You'll never control Dredd. You'll never control the Judges.

BIG BIG
Don't be simple, Simp.

JUDGE SIMP
(defiant)
Think differently you crippled monster.

Out of the wood work come THE CABAL OF OLD JUDGES totting big machine guns.

With one movement of the hand Big Big is surrounded by Ninjas.

BIG BIG
You pitiful thing.

Judge Simp smiles, old and crusty.

Mr. Big Big presses a button.

And then a HAIL OF GUN FIRE ENSUES on BOTH SIDES.

When the smoke clears, one Ninja stands directly in front of Big Big cradling the sublim box.

BIG BIG
Now onto S L U D G E .

They push forward past the pile of bodies. Big Big hovering out of the room.

INT. SEQUESTERED HEADQUARTERS

Dredd, Giant, Stoli, Estee and the GOOD JUDGES SOME ONE HUNDRED STRONG have gathered in the War Room. Screens, maps and overheads animate the walls.

JUDGE DREDD
As you know the Judge system has been struck by the recreation virus. Fortunately only some forty percent of the Judges in Sector 77 have been planted with mind control. The source of the virus, Leisure Inc who was awarded the contract by SJS, specifically Judge Simp.

On the overhead we see a picture of Big Big. On another Judges under the spell of the virus, slack jawed with idiotic expressions.

JUDGE DREDD
We know that Big Big the chairmen of Leisure Inc. used the recreation laws in hopes of taking over the Judges by bringing them to Ali Baba's and implanting subliminal commands in them thereby

rendering ineffective their ability
to administer the law.

Now a picture of Sludge appears.

JUDGE DREDD
But right now Mega City has an even
bigger problem. Sludge. We know Big
Big is interested in Sludge and that
Sludge like a giant sponge might catalyst
into a whirlwind wrecking havoc on MegaCity.
Our plan is to contain Sludge thereby
getting Big Big and restoring the free
will of the Judges. Stoli.

A large screen display of the Bertolt Brecht Block appears on the overhead. On west wing of the block is a small theatre. On the other end residential quarters.

STOLI
We can be certain Sludge will cycle
through a series of metabolized selves.
One of which we know is Hymie,
the engineer.

Picture of Hymie. The display widens and shows the digs of Hymie.

STOLI
When Hymie arrives at his home we will
contain Hymie with a new and improved
plasti-seam.

Stolie smiles over to Estee who beams. We see a visual of Hymie being plasti-seamed.

STOLI
Once he solidifies we will freeze the
Sludge thing and stabilize him in a
freezez truck in hopes that we can
U N M E R G E and seperate out whatever
is in him.

A picture of a freezer truck is positioned on the map.

Stoli steps aside as the image widens to show a rendering to scale of Hymie's digs and the surrounding buildings and city

blocks. All of this is in 3D and reveals itself more and more as a strategy game board.

Dredd, steps up with a pointer. Standing by him is Judge Giant.

JUDGE DREDD
Ginsberg you and your men will man the plasti-seam units.

A digitized plasti-seam truck appears in the north east corner of the Brecht Block map. JUDGE GINSBERG looks up to see a picture of himself by a plasti-seam unit.

JUDGE DREDD
Gingsburg on the west. Keroauc on the east.

JUDGE KEROAUC appears on the east.

JUDGE DREDD
Moliere you'll be dispatched here with the freezer truck.

JUDGE MOLIERE looks on as a picture of him appears on the northwest corner of the strategy map.

JUDGE DREDD
Other support Judges will appear here, here and here.

And so they do appear on the map.

MATCH DISSOLVE:

EXT. BERTOLT BRECHT BLOCK

Judge Dredd stands by mobile command. All his forces positioned according to plan.

In front of him exactly as seen on the map the huge tanker labeled "Plasti-seal", the freezer truck and support troops.

EXT. PERIPHERY OF PERIPHERY

ANGLE ON

Tara observes positions from a remote corner. She takes out her vox.

TARA 2906
Big Big, over.

INT. BIG BIG TANK

Big Big sits inside the cybernetic cockpit of his Big Big tank. Next to him is the black box.

TARA'S VOICE
At the Bertolt Brecht Block.

Big Big talks into his Leisure Inc. headset.

BIG BIG
Roger.

INT. COMMAND CONTROL

On a screen at Dredd's remote war room we see radiating up the block past the theatre Hymie bearly in control of his metabolism.

DREDD
Hymie has come home! Ready positions.

EXT. HYMIE'S DAY

Hymie steps up to his buzzer fizzling and beading. He rings again and again but no one answers.

He steps away from the building looks up its raked windows.

HYMIE
(cupping his mouth like a megaphone)
M O M ! M O M ! It's me.

TWENTY JUDGES IN RAD-SUITS, two Plasti-seam trucks, a Freezer truck and THEIR OPERATORS including Estee and Stoli all inch up towards Hymie WHOSE BACK IS TURNED AWAY FROM US.

HYMIE

(through cupped hands)
M O M ! Come on already. Open. Please!

ANGLE ON DREDD

Judge Dredd talks into his discman.

JUDGE DREDD
Five...

Out of a window twenty stories up an aggravated OLD LADY rears her head holding a plasti-bag of trash.

NEIGHBOR
Will you shut up already!

The Old Lady throws her fast-food and cat box litter onto the nervous beading Hymie.

ANGLE ON HYMIE

The food seems to absorb right into him as patches of his body immediately bubble out and expand.

He seems horrified as his body goes bonkers. He falls back onto the street where he sucks up a car and a wandering poddle tripling his size in every direction almost instantly.

CLOSE ON DREDD

Looking onto the block with his team all strategically perched in the wings.

JUDGE DREDD
Hit him with everything!

From two directions a hail storm of plasti-seam rains upon Hymie.

The Plasti-seal takes form around the sludging Hymie and he begins to solididy when

INT. BIG BIG TANK

Big Big tweeks his box that reads, "Judges Recreation virus". Big Big touches the screen that says activate.

BIG BIG
We'll see whose in charge here.

EXT. HYMIE'S

From behind his pasti-seal blast cannon JUDGE GINSBERG'S face turns slack and stupid.

Ginsburg repositions his cannon mount hitting the Old Lady in the window.

Now the Freezer truck appears.

Ginsburg levels the truck with foam.

ANGLE ON FREEZER TRUCK

As the windshield is covered in plasti-freeze.

JUDGE MOLIERE
What's gone wrong.

He turns to his assistant who looks at him, slack and stupid.

JUDGE JARRY
Let's recreate.

ANGLE ON DREDD

as he watches Ginsburg spraying the Freezer truck.

DREDD
What's happen to Judge Ginsberg!

In the center of all this Sludge begins to tear and rip through the plast-seam.

ANGLE ON MUTIE TANK

From his cybernetic cockpit Big Big watches surviellance cameras showing the battle field on six screens.

He tweeks the sublim box.

EXT. BATTLE FEILD

More Judges go slack.

INT. TANK

Big Big smiles.

BIG
(into micro head set)
Okay Tarabots fall in.

EXT. PERIPHERY OF BERTOLT BRECHT BLOCK

TARABOTS sheen black and rust metal brown, buzz and hover from behind buildings like warrior ants.

They seem to dissolve into the picture out of no where.

EXT. OVERZOOM

From the overzoom more BOTS step out and strategically look down. These bots have molded wrap-around glasses. Like ants standing upright with hover packs, molded to their backs they inch up positioning themselves like strange gargolyles.

EXT. WEST PERIPHERY OF THE BERTOLT BRECHT BLOCK

More Tarabots with sonar sheilds very geometrically hover into formation.

Just beyond them are all of Judge Dredd's containment forces.

Tarabots now break down Dredd's rear guard assualt.

TARABOTS
Big Big. Big Big. Big Big.

The Recreation Judges join in with the Bots.

RECREATION JUDGES
Big Big. Big Big.

ANGLE ON DREDD

at his mobile unit at ground level.

DREDD
What's happened to the Judges!
Simp must have scrambled the list.

INT. TANK

Big Big joy sticks his Tara troops.

EXT. GROUND LEVEL OF BERTOLT BRECHT BLOCK

The tank gets closer to Sludge. Sludge is absorbing everything in its path as it expands and expands.

ANGLE DREDD

DREDD
(to himself)
Got to to keep him sprayed or we'll lose him.

Estee mounts the ladder of the plasti-seam truck tries to fight off Ginsburg.

ANGLE ON DREDD

DREDD
(to himself)
Got to get these Bots and Judges off our back.

Dredd gets on his discman.

DREDD
(on discman)
Giant. Ready the Stumm gas.

ANGLE ON GIANT

Mayhem everywhere.

GIANT
(disman)
To use against the Judges?!

DREDD
(discman)
There's no other choice.

Stumm cannons are put in place and turned on the Judges.

Dredd turns back to see JUDGES A HUNDRED STRONG coming at him.

DREDD
(on discman)
Okay Giant. Hold it.

Dredd now walks head on towards the hundred Judges.

ANGLE ON GIANT

GIANT
(Looking on at Dredd)
What's he doing?!

ANGLE ON BATTLE FIELD

JUDGE DREDD
Recreate. Recreate.

The Judges cheer Dredd on.

He waves his hand to motion them to follow. Up ahead is the small theatre. Like lemmings to the cliff the Judges follow Dredd.

JUDGE DREDD
Recreate. Recreate.

Estee watches in utter dismay.

JUDGE DREDD
(concealing his discman close to his mouth)
Okay Giant. Get ready to secure the doors.

Judge Dredd stands by the door chanting 'recreate' as one after another of the Judges walks into the theatre.

Sludge rages in front of Dredd as Big Big's tank gets closer. But Dredd has got to get the fallen Judges off his back. When the last one is in, Judge Dredd closes the door of the theatre behind them.

JUDGE DREDD
(on discman)
Giant let's seal it up.

Judge Giant shooting his way through Tarabots pulls in with a truck and secures the doors.

INT. BIG BIG TANK

Big Big seems fully engaged like a mad puppet master wired into all his toys.

BIG BIG
Get me closer you fools. I want Sludge.

On the surveillance screens we watch Big Big get closer.

BIG BIG
Now up periscope.

EXT. TANK

Big Big emerges from the cockpit black sublim box in hand.

All around Tarabots fight Judges.

Right in front of Big Big is Sludge.

BIG BIG
S L U D G E !

ANGLE ON PLAST-SEAM TRUCK

Estee is now in control of the spray and has turned it back onto the Sludge.

Big Big has gotten too close and Estee's spray propels him into the Sludge. The Sludge dematabolizes Big Big, the tank and the black box.

ANGLE ON DREDD

DREDD
Now we've got them both.

Big Big feels elated having a body. He bombasts and stamps his new feet.

ANGLE ON ESTEE

As she continues spraying the Sludge from the extention later.

But Tarabots have gotten onto the truck.

Estee keeps spraying the Sludge.

Tarabots fly in with hover packs and force her off the plasti-seam hose.

Estee spills off the ladder.

Like nats the Tarabots scurry around her.

ANGLE ON DREDD

Dredd fights off Tarabots.

One after

another

after another.

He gets to Estee, rescues her.

But more crazed Judges and Tarabots come after Dredd and his small forces.

Sludge has manage to get onto the overzoom, like a towering Godzilla. He is heading in the direction of the JULES VERNE BLOCK. Beyond which is the Leisure Inc. Tower calling him like a beacon in the dark.

EXT. PERIPHERY OF BERTOLT BRECHT BLOCK

Judge Dredd looks on as Sludge assimilates all in his way getting closer to the Jules Verne Block.

EXT. BATTLEFRONT

Dredd fights his way up to the the plasti-seal spray. Locks it off.

Dredd uses the cloud cover to grab several of the cannisters of plasti-seam and mount his lawmaster.

He takes off towards the overzoom.

EXT. THE JULES VERNE BLOCK

Big Big like a photograh blown up a hundred times saturates the surface of Sludge.

On the horizon line we can see a gigantic protective dome neslted into a cluster of buildings.

EXT. OVERZOOM

Sludge towers and rumbles towards the bubble. Many of the CITIZENS watching television stumble to their windows.

Sludge 40 feet high passes cowering Citiznes at eye-level sixteen stories up.

BIG BIG
(lumbering along the overzoom)
I really am Big.

In the distance on the surface of the bubble we see clouds projected on the bluest of skies.

Beyond that the Leisure Inc. complex. Big Big/Sludge rumbles towards it like a gigantic infant.

INT. ARTIFICAL PARK

Under the protective umbrella of the controlled environment PARENTS AND CHILDREN relax and play. Near the child zoo a SMALL BOY in a fashionable rubber suit looks on at the menagerie of strange animals, even more striking in this fantastically landscaped setting than we saw at Dr. Doo's.

The boy looks in awe as his HANDSOME FATHER directs his attention to his PRETTY WIFE sitting by the Jules Verne air balloon. Beyond her we see in large letters, Mega-Comp terminal station 6B.

The father purchases a balloon from a BALLOON VENDOR and hands it to his son. But the balloon slips from the boys grasp, goes skyward towards the dome sixty feet up. There it joins cruiser airballoons, the equivalent of park rowboats of old in this fully mechanized Jules Verne theme park.

As father and son look up following the wayward balloon from inside the glass bubble they laugh and the boy claps his hands together. Then he screams as Sludge's gigantic paw pounds on the glass.

EXT. OVERZOOM LEADING INTO PARK

Judge Dredd passes a clock tower that announces the park. It is one minute till three.

He closes in on the Sludge. Now bigger than ever.

Judge Dredd circles round from above as Sludge stands atop the bubbled park. Below him FAMILES scramble with fear as we see what Sludge is looking at. Through the glass in the midst of the menagerie is a sign that says, "Leisure Inc."

EXT. BALCONY

Dredd looks on at the Sludge stammering to get into the bubble. He inserts the cannisters of plasti-seam into a mini-launcher.

Fires onto the Sludge. The pasti-seam begins to wrap around the Sludge.

ANGLE ON CLOCK

As it strikes three.

A motor begins to crank and the bubble at its center opens up.

Sludge/Big Big falls through leaving the edges of the glass covered in plasti-seam.

INT. ARTIFICAL PARK

SLUDGE on a rampage assimilates everything in its path including a to-scale video display of a handsome and fierce looking Samuri Warrior.

Citizens run and cower wherever they can find cover.

Judge Dredd drives in on his law master. In all directions there is mayhem. The Menagerie animals running loose. Dredd scans the outskirts of the park seeing mini-stores and Mega Comp station 6.

Dredd spies Izzy's Ice treats. Maybe he can trap Sludge in there.

Sludge grabs the young boy seen with his father in the park by the menagerie but the boy is not assimilated and rests in Sludge's huge fingers.

EXT. FACE OF BUILDING DAY

Like King Kong, Sludge begins to mount the building taking giant steps inserting his feet floor by floor up the towering apartment building.

The young boys fathers shakes his fist at Sludge.

Then almost from spite Sludge reaches down and sucks up the father while the little boy falls out of his arms.

Judge Dredd catches the boy. Who smiles in the Judges arms.

JUDGE DREDD
Your rubber suit saved you.

BOY
Judge Dwedd.

(pointing to Sludge)
Big.

JUDGE DREDD
Very.

Dredd puts the boy.

Sludge is forty stories up. He continues towards the Leisure Inc. logo at the top of the building.

Dredd looks on at an air balloon station.

INT. AIRBALLOON DAY

Dredd gets into the air balloon. With him is one cannister of plasti-seal.

Sludge towers up the building. Dredd floats up towards him.

Dredd controls the lift of the balloon. Soon he is parallel to Sludge seventy stories up now.

Sludge swats at Judge Dredd. But Dredd airsurfs the balloon out of the way.

He continues skyward and begins to tact in towards the roof. He leaps off onto the rooftop as Sludge heads up towards him.

EXT. ROOFTOP LEISURE LOGO DAY

The balloon continues skyward as Dredd positions himself with the loaded cannister of plasti-seam.

INT. BUILDING DAY

A CITIZEN steps towards his window only to see the mighty paw of Sludge power through it leaving behind a sludging mess on the beautiful ornate carpet.

CITIZEN
You nasty thing. That's hand woven.

EXT. RAKED BUILDING DAY

Sludge gazes up to see a minute Dredd looking down on him.

DREDD
Okay Creep. Time for a shower

EXT. ROOFTOP WITH LEISURE INC. SIGN DAY

Dredd powers the cannister of plasti-seam onto Sludge.

Sludge begins to solidify. But continues up the building.

Dredd keeps the spray on him until there is none left.

Sludge's paw rips through the plasti-seam and reaches up over the lip of the rooftop.

SLUDGE
(seeing the Leisure Inc sign)
H o m e !

JUDGE DREDD
Not quite creep.

Dredd shots him with a sonar blast.

Sludge loses his grip

falls off the the ledge.

Falls

and falls

down the sheer face of the building tower

until he splatters onto and through Mega Comp station 6B.

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until he splatters onto and through Mega Comp station 6B.

INT. MEGA COMP STATION 6B

Sludge falls upon the MegaComp6B process unit.

Sludge dematerializes, melting down and seeping through the slabs of memory and process chips at MegaComp6B.

EXT. JULES VERNE PARK

At Ground level Judge Dredd scans the horizon. Wreckage of the mayhem is everywhere. It's creepy and silent until

ROILING LAUGHTER

echoes contagiously block after block.

EXT. SIDE VIEW OF BLOCK TOWER

CITIZENS watch Sludge on the vizzy.

INT. HONG RESIDENCE

An everyday family THE HONGS watch in horror as goo seeps through along the edges of their Leisure Inc. tele-net set.

Their SMALL GIRL places her hand in the goo and turns away in tears.

EXT. JULES VERNE PARK

Dredd looks on at a monitor in Izzy's Ice shop and sees the culprit, SamuriSludge. Dredd takes the discman from his belt.

JUDGE DREDD
(discman)
Anderson. Get over here. Sludge is in the electronics of the city.

EXT. SPHINX NEWS

Big Big/Sludge appears as the pristine Samuri warrior display he absorbed in the park. CITIZENS and SHOP KEEPERS crowd in to listen.

BIG BIG/SAMURI
The dream palaces will be open and we will free our selves from the strong arm of the law.

Citizens cheer him on.

BIG BIG SAMURI
Have some leisure cereal. Take a leisure vacation.

EXT. CITY BLOCK

Looking into the living rooms of the citizens of the JAMES BALDWIN Block we watch them all happily eat cereal watching the tube.

BIG BIG SAMURI
Storm the palaces!

EXT. CYBER MOBILE UNIT

The cyber unit parked outside the James Baldwin block is neslted in the shade of the many living towers.

Off screen like a Ramones chorus we hear, "Recreate. Recreate. Recreate."

JUDGE DREDD
He's inserted himself in the cybernet.

JUDGE ANDERSON
Hoping to M E R G E everyone into an extention of his sick will.

JUDGE DREDD
We'll see about that.

INT. CYBER UNIT

Dredd and Anderson step into the mobile unit. Embedded in the walls are datapacs, memory units, image banks and cyber gear in swirls of pinks and greens.

Dredd straps into a virtual suit.

Judge Anderson boots up an option menu where Dredd can choose weapons, manuverabilty, atttributes and image.

On the screen we see icons of the following:

A. Kung Fu boxer
B. Samuri warrior
C. Judge Dredd
D. Psycho-Zombie

Judge Dredd looks it over and ops for C.

ANGLE ON UPRIGHT BODY SIZE MONITOR

A Judge Dredd takes full screen. As the actual Judge Dredd moves so does his virtual image on the monitor.

Judge Anderson brings up the weapons menu which include sixteen options, including swords, grenades, gasses, six different kinds of firearms and other tactical equipment. Dredd presses "all of the above".

JUDGE DREDD
Jack me in Anderson. There's no time to waste.

Judge Dredd's consciousness is shot into the net.

INT. CYBERSPACE

An electronic landscape where meat becomes consciousness as represented by an AVATAR.

Judge Dredd powers through a wire-frame three dimensional city which is overlaid with codes and numbers, byways and overzooms. It is the digital imaging of the concourse of trillions of giga-bits of information.

Judge Dredd travels in hyperspeed passing icons for various Mega Comp stations that plot out the cyberhighways.

ANGLE ON MEGA COMP STATION 6B

Dredd pulls his cybercycle up to the sign. The sign says, "overload". Dredd checks the digital map on the monitor of his cybercycle.

He punches in cyberskylab. The Judges surveillance map of the cyberlandscape. On it like a radar are bleeps that show us the travel path of Sludge. It appears he is heading for Mega Comp's CPU.

JUDGE DREDD
Must shut him off before he gets into the main frame.

Dredd engages warpspeed and soon is at the lip of a violet grey crater stamped ROM1121.

ANGLE ON ROM1121

All around are craters each numbered in bold letters.

Judge Dredd steps off his bike to confront a towering CYBERSAMURISLUDGE who is trying to unscrew a bolt cap to ROM1121.

CYBERSAMURISLUDGE is elegantly huge with a skull wrap of mirror aluminium crowned by brilliant rubies. His detailed and layered breast and shoulder armour is burnt sienna and his scally boots a rust seering black. On his belt hangs a jewel crusted sword that shimmers with light.

CyberSamurisludge is six to eight times the size of Dredd.

Dredd steps out into the bowl of the crater.

SAMURISLUDGE

Hello Dredd.

The sound echoes as if on a distant moon.

SAMURISLUDGE
Here in cyberspace I am the most articulated man on the planet.

SamuriSludge steps forward his shadow crawling up and covering the unduanted Judge Dredd.

JUDGE DREDD
Stop now. Before I have to hurt you Sludge!

SamuriSludge steps forward. Growls.

But because of the incline of the crater his massive size struggles for balance.

SAMURISLUDGE
Not before all the puppets out there let me make them better men.

SamuriSludge in one sweeping swoop engages his sword raising it high above his head.

And whhhhheeeeewwwwwwwwww !

Lets it fall upon Dredd.

Who just in the knick of time steps out of the way tumbling on the ground.

Out of CyberSludge's circle breast plate rotary cannons engage. Darts fire pinning the outline of Dredd and his uniform to the ground.

INT. CYBER MOBILE UNIT

Judge Anderson watches her monitor fed through cyberskylab that shows us Dredd pinned to the crater floor.

Dredd lays next to her in his cyber helmut gloves and suit. His body mimics the pinned movement. It is very real. He is meat here while his consciousness inhabits another body in

cyberspace. He buckles his lip under trying as hard he can to rotate the inside of his calves.

Judge Anderson looks on and seems to send him an empathic shot of energy.

INT. CYBERSPACE

SamuriSludge weilds the mighty sword over Judge Dredd. He steps forward for the kill blow.

SAMURISLUDGE
Astalavista baby!

But Dredd's calves now LET FLY ARROWS of their own.

SamuriSludge's kneecaps are hit. Yet the sword is already coming down to cleave Judge Dredd in two.

Dredd pulls clear his pinned uniform off the crater floor and rolls over missing a shave by a hair.

The momentum of the sword is so great it causes SamuriSludge to tumble over.

SamuriSludge tumbles and tumbles until it is right square on top of ROM1121.

Dredd gets to his feet.

JUDGE DREDD
I've got to stop him before the whole city is taken over by a massive virus.

EXT. ALI BABA'S

CITIZENS storm the Dream Palace for the show of shows.

RONNIE
Watch Dredd fight the Sludge!

TOMMIE
Ninety-five credits please.

JUVE
(pushing his way through)

Strum off!

The JUVES' GANG push past Tommie leading the way for

MORE and MORE CITIZENS to disregard decorum and

barrel through pushing their way into the emporium trampling upon Ronnie and Tommie Faust.

INT. CYBERSPACE

SamuriSlugde stands over the ROM1121 cap. He lifts the lid and beads of streaming light pour through as if a fiber optic cable snapped open.

SamuriSludge rears his head back blown out by a dazzling white light. Judge Dredd throws a suction dart some twenty feet lodging it into the back of SamuriSludge.

The wench cranks and pulls Dredd up onto CyberSludge's back.

ANGLE ON CYBER SLUDGE'S BACK

Dredd hangs there like a nat.

Dredd slips down SamuriSludge's back. Hangs on his belt buckle. Dredd hangs their and then kicks SamuriSludge at the back of his knees.

SamuriSludge tumbles over and spills into the tunnel of light taking Judge Dredd with him.

INT. LIGHT SHAFT

Vectors of code and data zoom by the screen as Dredd and SamuriSludge tumble through the vortex.

The sword tumbles with them. Both duck and bob up and down to avoid the decapatation of the blade. Each pushing it in the others direction.

The sword passes ahead of them until the back end of it from the great velocity lands smack against a vaulted door that says Mega Comp CPU.

ANGLE ON

MEGA COMP CPU WITH SAMURI SWORD BLADE POINTING OUT

Coming faster than fast towards the point of the blade are Dredd and SamuriSludge. Dredd smaller than SumariSludge positions himself so as to nudge SamuriSludge

right into the blade

SPLAT

SamuriSludge skewers and explodes !!!!!!!

Dredd beads out of the game just a nanosecond before being crushed and shishkabobed himself.

EXT. MOBILE CYBER UNIT

An extremely tense Anderson has pulled Dredd out just in the nick of time.

Dredd rips off the cyberhelmut.

DREDD
Thanks Anderson.

JUDGE ANDERSON
(blanch with exhaustion)
Sure.

EXT. MEGA COMP HQ.

Like a geyser Sludge shots up into the sky landing outside the walls of the Big Smelly dam.

The puddle looks much like the first time we saw it. Irradiated and gooey. Then it seeps into the ground.

INT. MOBILE LAB

Dredd takes off the last of the virtual gear.

JUDGE DREDD

We've got to get him while
he's weak.

Dredd takes out his discman.

JUDGE DREDD
Giant. Get me Giddo the Dog. Cover
him in rubber.

On one of the monitors we see Penny News talking about the riots and reports of the sensational virtual battle between Judge Dredd and the Samuri who wants to rule MegaCity.

ANGLE ON VIZZY

PENNY NEWS
We talked to propreitor Tommie Faust.

TOMMIE FAUST
(all bruised and stepped on)
Za people. Za have no manners. But za
box office. Thank Allah! Out of this
world.

LUIGI
And so it was Penny a legendary evening.

TOMMIE FAUST
Blessed be heaven. Dredd wins.

INT. LAB DAY

Estee tattered up watches Penny describe the wreckage caused from the afternoon's bungled capture attempt of Sludge.

Like a light bulb Estee beams.

ESTEE
Stoli. Stoli.

She runs over to him and grabs him.

ESTEE
What holds a nu-face together?!

STOLI
(a beat)
Yes. The synthi-face palours.

ESTEE
Drok. Drok! Drok! Drok! Face fix-it solution. That's what's missing.

STOLI
Let's get it to Dredd.

EXT. BIG SMELLY

On the shores of the Big Smelly stands a fantastically customized vehicle. It is a weapon in the shape of a dog, zebra and horse. Like a giant walker mixed in with an animal this is GIDDO THE MECHANIZED WARRIOR DOG.

Giant walks Dredd around the Giddo vehicle.

GIANT
All rubberized. Cannon snouts are loaded with face fix-it. Sprayers with M E R G E . Sonar can break any barrier.

Dredd mounts Giddo like a camel.

GIANT
You sure you want to go by yourself?

DREDD
There's no other way Giant. We can't risk the judges turning on us till we get that box.

GIANT
We'll monitor you here.

JUDGE DREDD
Giddo, head out.

The voice activated vechicle begins moving.

JUDGE GIANT
Good luck Dredd.

Dredd gets under the hatch and shuts the lid.

INT. GIDDO

Judge Dredd mans the cockpit. As he turns over his shoulder snapping on buttons he sees:

Estee crouching behind corkbrown gear in the cockpit.

JUDGE DREDD
What's this?

ESTEE
It's me.

Dredd shakes his head. He is not pleased.

ESTEE
I want to help you save Megacity.

JUDGE DREDD
Thanks. But.

Dredd lifts the hatch to show Estee out.

ESTEE
Come on Uncy. This one time. Then I'll go back to Mars. I promise.

Dredd reluctantly pulls the hatch door down.

EXT. THE BIG SMELLY

Under the vaulted algae ridden walls of the massive aquaduct tunnels Judge Dredd and Estee manuveur Giddo.

Lake a camouflaged sea horse it cuts through the black waters.

INT. GIDDO VEHICLE

On their screen they see something massive and ill-formed.

Judge Dredd pilots forward eternally vigilant more focused than ever.

As the image comes into focus we see Sludge has metabolized into strange web like tank.

INT. SLUDGE'S AMPHI-TANK

Inside the beading skullcapped Big Big is wired into all the gelatin operations gear.

SLUDGE BIG BIG TANK
You have become a pest to me Dredd. And now I will have to free MegaCity from your clutches.

INT. GIDDO

They seem to be talking to each other.

JUDGE DREDD
He doesn't learn.

Two men intent to battle to the end.

EXT. BIG SMELLY

Like two sea horses the giant beasts, Giddo and the Tara-amphi-tank through the pondscum waters of the Big Smelly.

A volley of BLASTS EXPLODE from both ends.

The two vehicles get closer and closer as fragments fly off the Giddo and patches wobble on the Tara-amphi-tank.

INT. TARATANK

An oozing wet thing Big Big and his machine inseperable.

BIG BIG
(slobbering like Jubba the Hut)
Come closer you fool. I'll suck you up.

INT. GIDDO

Judge Dredd watches his screen as he gets closer to the duckwebbed scaley lockness-like tank.

JUDGE DREDD
That's it. Come closer and let me blow you apart.

ESTEE
Easy Uncle. First we umerge it.

EXT. SEA BATLLE

The Giddo approaches the Tara-amphi-tank.

Shots explode off the bow. Colored lights shimmer against algae walls and murky waters.

The Giddo is like a cork bobbing in the water next to the tara-amphi-tank raking a massive wake in its tow.

Like a spit ball the Giddo is sucked under and into the wobble of the sludge tank until it disappears.

INT. THE GIDDO

Judge Dredd and Estee tumble round and round. And through the various circle windows we see blobs of Jelly.

But the Giddo is not being metabolized.

INT. MUTIEDUCKTARATANK

Big Big slobbers.

BIG BIG
I'm not metabolizing him. Drokk. Dredd.

INT. THE GIDDO

Tumbling within the dark womb of Sludge, Dredd watches his sonar screen.

JUDGE DREDD
We're at the heart of him. Engage.

Estee clicks down the sprayer buttons that have the word M E R G E tape to them.

ESTEE
Engaged.

JUDGE DREDD
Suck on this creep!

Estee presses the sprayer switches.

EXT. NOZZLE OF GIDDO

From the rounded nozzle under the water -- M E R G E sprays out.

EXT. BATTLE

Like a giant sponge in reverse the tara-mutie-tank begins to crackle and fizzle, contracting and contracting.

INT. MUTIESDUCKTANK

As the cockpit begins to fizzle and dissolve Big Big stammers angrily.

BIG BIG
You stupid Sludge.

EXT. BIG SMELLY

As the Sludge destabilizes Citizens spill out and begin bobbing out of the water fully formed.

Soon on the banks of the big Smelly are citizens from almost every city block of MegaCity. Not only citizens but trees,

parking meters, vizzycubes, cars. All of them having come out of the Sludge like a great christmas stocking.

Even the yelping poodle comes back and begins barking at the shrinking Sludge.

Like a cork free from the grips of the SludgeTank, the Giddo bobs up out of the water.

CLOSE ON GIDDO

Dredd gets out of the camel like shaped cockpit. Out of another hatch emerges Estee.

Sludge dissolves further and further.

ANGLE ON

Big Big's metallic skull cap crown with the red ruby lights beading on the surface of the black waters. That and an arm and a barley recognizble trunk.

ANGLE ON DREDD

Spotting the Dali-esque shaped Big Big/Sludge.

ANGLE ON WATERS SURFACE

Popping out of the water right next to the metal skullcap is the black box. Big Big stammers and smiles. His hand tries to pull the box in. But part of the HAND DISSOLVES AND FLOATS OFF.

BIG BIG SLUDGE
Argghhhh!

Big Big's decapitated finger reaches for the sublim box.

ANGLE ON DREDD

DREDD
We've got to get that box
before it dissolves.

Estee and Dredd strap on the mobile Face-fix-it spray tanks onto their backs.

They splash down into the water.

ANGLE ON

BigBig as his body drifts closer to the bobbing box.

Dredd watches Big Big, his nozzle gun ready to spray Big Big with Face-Fix-it.

But Big Big continues dissolving before his finger can get to the box.

BIG BIG
I am Big Big.

Blop. Blop. Blop.

Judge Dredd steps over to the Sludge just a small pool of ooze surrounding the rubber black box.

Judge Dredd picks up the box.

JUDGE DREDD
(smiling box in hand)
Hmmm. It's rubber.

ESTEE
Now to fix him for good.

Estee sprays the last of the Sludge goo with Face-Fix-it.

From across the banks the people watch Judge Dredd and his cousin stand over something now no bigger than a dime.

Estee bends down and puts the Sludge in a glass vile. They stand there with black box and glass vile.

ESTEE
Thanks Uncy.

JUDGE DREDD
Now to free the Judges.

INT. PSI DIVISION DAY

Dredd hands the rubber black box to Judge Anderson.

JUDGE DREDD

Give the Judges back their minds
Anderson.

Anderson takes the box and hooks it up to her demon-extractor. Swirls of madness, a whirlwind of letters that say "let's recreate" circle hypnotically exhaling out of the box with thousands and thousand of names followed by the word Judge.

Judge Anderson braces herself, hands on the machine, as the swirl of energy whips her hair back. Dredd looks on windswept and stern.

Finally the room is calm. The monitor reads; "Subliminals neutralized".

JUDGE ANDERSON
The Judges are free.

JUDGE DREDD
Good work Anderson. Now put that box on ice.

EXT. CITY HALL DAY

It is a bright sunshinny day in MegaCity. Estee, Walter, Stoli, and the little boy in the rubber suit with his father and citizens of MegaCity gather round the city hall steps.

Judge Giant flanked by Judges stands behind the regalia of the SJS.

JUDGE GIANT
As new head of the Special Judges Squad I pronounce with the signing of this document the cancellation of the leisure laws.

The Citizens cheer.

JUDGE GIANT
And we restore to the Judges the serious job of keeping our fair city safe.

Cheers.

JUDGE GIANT

In Megacity the Judges are law again.

The MegaCity band plays.

Judge Giant walks over to Dredd.

GIANT
I'd like you on the SJS board Dredd.

JUDGE DREDD
Thanks Giant. But I need to be on the streets and uphold the law.

Judge Dredd now turns to Estee. Walter is next to her holding a suitcase.

JUDGE DREDD
Now you young lady.

Stoli has his arms around Estee.

STOLI
We're getting married.

ESTEE
So I can get my green card and stay.

STOLI
She'd make a great research partner and whose to say ....

JUDGE DREDD
That's against the law citizen.

As they argue we pull up and up out of overzooms and hovercars and Leisure billboards to reveal the gigantic statue of Judge Fargo that says, "Judges are Law" beyond which we see the Lincoln Memorial.

ESTEE
But...

JUDGE DREDD
There are no buts.

We continue through the clouds till we see the mighty beak of the Judges' Eagle Building representing law and justice for all.